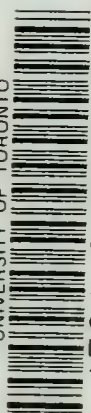


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Publications of the Prince Society.

Established May 25th, 1858.

SIR FERDINANDO GORGES

AND

HIS PROVINCE OF MAINE.



Boston:

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY,
By JOHN WILSON AND SON.

1890.

439308
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SIR FERDINANDO GORGES

AND HIS

PROVINCE OF MAINE.

INCLUDING

THE BRIEF RELATION, THE BRIEF NARRATION, HIS
DEFENCE, THE CHARTER GRANTED TO HIM,
HIS WILL, AND HIS LETTERS.

EDITED WITH A

MEMOIR

AND

HISTORICAL ILLUSTRATIONS

BY

JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER, A.M.

VOL. III.

Boston:

PUBLISHED BY THE PRINCE SOCIETY.

1890.



866

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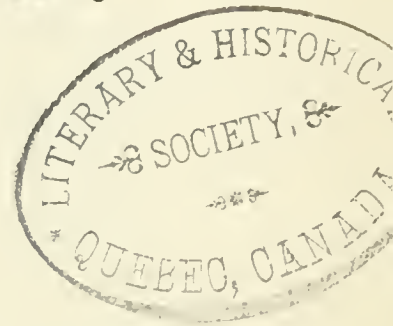
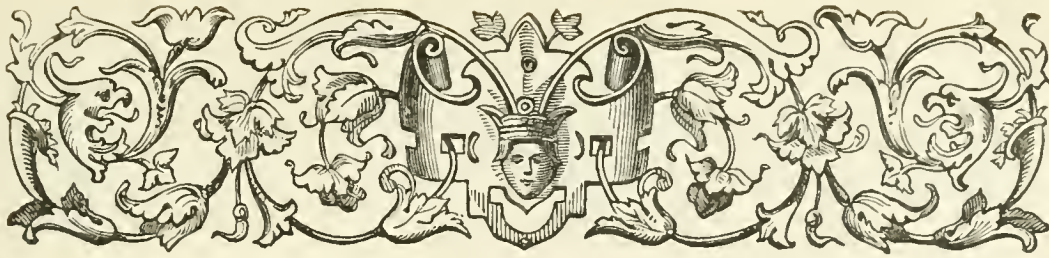
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THE LETTERS
OF
SIR FERDINANDO GORGES,

COVERING THE PERIOD FROM 1595 TO 1646.

(Cecil Papers 45/21.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONORABLE, I have written unto your Ho: many letters sithence the retorne of the fleete, but I doubt that by some meanes they miscaried by the waye, for that I receyved not anye notice from your ho: they were receyved, wherefore I beseech your ho: to cause some of your secreтарыes, to give me knowledge of the receyte of such letters, as uppon occasion I shall fend unto your ho: from time to time. The answer of your ho: last letters to the commissioners, is referred to the comminge upp of M^r Stalenge him selfe who wilbe at court about the beginninge of the next month. humbly recommending my duty unto your Ho: wth unfayned assurance, of an earnest desire to discharge

The Letters of

charge all the dutyes of an honest mann unto your ho: as
on that wilbe Ever

Your Ho: to Commaund / FARD: GORGES.

from the fort att PLIMOTH the 29 of Septem: 1596.

Add: To the Right honorable Sr Robert Ceccill knight, principall secretaire to
her Ma^{tie}. End: 29 Sept 1596 Sr Far: Gorges to my Mr. 1-2 p.

(Cecil Papers 45/23.)

SIR F. GORGES AND OTHERS, COMMISSIONERS AT PLYMOUTH,
TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHTE HONORABLE, our humble dueties remembred: wee
have at the lenghte fynished our dispatche unto yo^r honor,
the which for some tyme was deferred unto M^r Stallenge
his Coming uppe himselfe unto yo^r honor, whoe can best
make relasyon of what hath benn donn from the beginning.
Wherefore wee have thought it best, wholye to referr itt unto
him, to make that plaine, w^{ch} otherwise maie seeme doutefull
and tedyous thus praying unto the almighty for th increse
of yo^r honor, doe humblie take our leave from Plymouth
this 29th of September anno 1596.

Yo^r honors most humblie at Comanndem^t/

FARD: GORGES. GEORGE CARY.⁵¹⁷
WILLIAM STRODE.⁵¹⁶ CHR: HARRIS.⁵¹⁸
W^M STALLENGE.⁵¹⁹

Add: To the Right honorable Sir Roberte Cycell knight, principall Secretaire
unto her Ma^{tie} End: 29 Sept: 1596 The Commissione^{rs} at Plymmothe to
my Mr. 1-2 p.

(Cecil

Sir Ferdinando Gorges.

3

(Cecil Papers 45/44.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.⁵²⁰

RIGHT HONORABLE, I beseech you to accept of these few lines, by the w^{ch} I doe humbly intreat the continuance of your ho: favour wheruppon I doe build my hopes, as already having received assurance, by many benefits, from your ho. towards me, wherby you have bound me to continue unfaynedly

Your ho: to commaund during life / FARD: GORGES.

from the fort at PLIMOTH the 6th of October 1596.

Add: To the Right honorable S^r Robert Ceccill knight, principall secretary to her Mat^{ie}. End: 6 Oct. 1596 S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my M^r. 1-2 p.

(Cecil

⁵¹⁶ Sir William Strode, of Newnham, is celebrated in Prince's *Worthies of Devon* as "a person of great honour, worth, and esteeme in the county, who died a little before the Civil War began." He was knighted at Whitehall in 1597.

⁵¹⁷ Sir George Cary, of Cockington, was Treasurer of Ireland and afterward Lord Deputy. Prince, in his *Worthies of Devon*, says that "he took up his honourable sword in a stormy, tempestuous time, when that kingdom was strangely actuated with the spirit of rebellion, which occasioned him much trouble during the little space he held it." After speaking of his retirement to his country-seat, he continues, "knowing how pleasing a sacrifice to God charity and good deeds are, he purposed to do something for the poor, and accordingly he set about building of seven alms houses for their use and comfort." He died in 1616.

⁵¹⁸ Christopher Harris, who was at this time serving as an associate commissioner with Gorges, was made the Deputy Vice-Admiral of Devon in place of Sir John Gilbert, being more in favor with Cecil than Gorges, who, in a former letter, applied for this office.

⁵¹⁹ William Stallenge was one of the active merchants of Plymouth, and in favor with Buckingham. He represented Plymouth in Parliament in 1601.

⁵²⁰ This letter doubtless refers to the Deputy Vice-Admiralty of the shire, an office which Sir Ferdinando greatly coveted, but which Cecil was not inclined to grant to one known to be the friend of his rival Essex; hence he turned a deaf ear to Sir Ferdinando's appeals and appointed another to the place.

(Cecil Papers 46/5.)

THE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH, SIR F. GORGES, AND OTHERS
TO THE COUNCIL.

RIGHT HONORABLE/ Our humble dutyes beinge remembred/ may it please your Lo^{ps} to understand, that this present day, ther is arived here a shippe of Hambrough⁵²¹ called the fortune laden wth wheat. pretending (as yt may also appere under my Lo: Admiralls hand) a passport from her Ma^{tie} to be one of the tenn to passe for the Duke of Florence.⁵²² Yeat confideringe the great scarcitie of corne in these partes by the furnishinge of shippes wth breade from hence, we thought it our duties humbly to entreat your Lo^{pes} to confider of yt, and to give such directions as unto your Lo^{ps} wisdomes shall seeme good, humbly desiringe we may have notice of your pleasures by the first, for that we have presumed to stay the same untill your Lo^{ps} pleasures be farther knowne therin. And thus we humbly take our leaves of your Lo^{ps}

Your Lo^{ps} humbly to commande /

HUMFREY FOUNES

Maior.

FARD: GORGES.

CHR: HARRIS.

from PLIMOTH the 27th of October 1596.

Add: To the Right honorable our singuler good Lo^{ds} the Lo^{ds} of her Matie privye Counsaile. End: 27 Oct. 1596. Mayor of Plymmothe. Sr Fa: Gorges. Mr Chr Harris to y^r Lls. A shippe of Hamburghe Laden wth wheat for y^e D. of Florence stayd by y^m for w^{ch} they desire to knowe their L^{ps} pleasure.
1 p.

(Cecil

⁵²¹ Hamburg.

⁵²² This was Ferdinand de Medici, born in 1549. When fourteen years of age he was created Cardinal *diacre* by

Pope Pius IV. On the death of his brother in 1587, he became third Grand Duke of Tuscany. He died February 17th, 1608.

(Cecil Papers 46/9.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONORABLE. my humble duty remembred; Accord-
inge unto your ho: pleafure I have had conference wth M^r
Stallenge, who defireth to take an other courfe in that
matter. for myne owne part, I proteft ther is nothinge pleaf-
eth me better, then to be employed, in any maner of fervice,
from or for your ho: And therfore I doe hartely pray you
to be fo affured of me, as havinge noe other meanes to
fatisfie thofe obligations, wherin I ftand bownd fo manye
wayes unto your ho: as by that I finde and daylye heare of
your honorable favours towards me, wherfore through the
willingnes of an honeft minde I have vowed to be

Your ho: to command duringe life / FARD: GORGES.

May it pleafe your ho: to take notice of this letter w^{ch}
we have fent to theyr Lo^{ps} /

from PLIMOTH this 27 of October 1596.

Add: To the Right honorable S^r Robert Ceecill knight, principall fecretarye to
her Ma^{tie}: End: 27 Octobr: 1596 S^r Ferdinando Gorge to my M^r from
Plimouth. At Richmonde.⁵²³ 1-2 p.

(Cecil Papers 46/29.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONORABLE. I finde by a letter from my L. your
father your honorable care of this place, and in it I doe ac-
knowledge your exceeding favour towards my felfe, for the
first you will purchace unto your felfe love and honour from all
men,

⁵²³ Where the Court was then refiding. It was the favorite refidence of
Elizabeth, and there fhe died.

men, for the second, you have the same power over me that I have over my selfe, humbly prayinge that yt will please your ho: to take howld of this present occasion, wherby we have receyved warning of the worst, for it is most certeyne, by the report of those that come from the coast, that the enemy hath assembled a great power (and as they doe give it forth) doe entend it to this place, wherfore I doe humbly pray that some order may presently be taken, for the better securing of this place, the w^{ch} must be by a greater proportion of men as I haue hertofore writte to be resident for the preventing of suddayne surprizinge, not wthout reason to be doubted for that here Commeth continually shipping of all fortes and lye sometimes 3 or 4 dayes together in Causon baye ⁵²⁴ and we cann never understand what they are nor have any sufficient meanes to command them, wherfore may yt please your ho: to Consider how Convenient it were ther were appoynted to lye some shippinge here of good force, w^{ch} may alway be ready to be commaunded uppon all occasions, and yf yt shall seeme daungerous for her Ma^{ty} shippinge to ly heere in respect of the doubt of fire or any other misfortune, ther may be appoynted some others such as shall be thought meet by your ho^{rs} for her Ma^{ty} pay w^{ch} may be kept wth some reasonable Company of menn, saving att such times when ther shalbe present occasion of theyr service. And thus I humbly take my leave of your ho: still restinge

Your ho: ever to command / FARD: GORGES.

from the fort att PLIMOTH this 2 of November 1596.

Add. To the Right honorable S^r Robert Ceccill Knight principall secretaire to her Ma^{ty}. End: 2 No: 1596. S^r Far. Gorges to my M^r from Plymmothe.

1 p.

⁵²⁴ Cawfand Bay, on the coast of Devonshire.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 46/33.)

THE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH, SIR F. GORGES, AND W. STALLENGE TO THE COUNCIL.

WITH the remembraunc of o^r humble duties. It maye please yo^r Lpps to be advertised wee have heire taken order for three vessells to be Imploied in her ma^{ties} service according to the Instructions received From yo^r Hono^{rs} in that behalfe. The one of them appointed For the Burlinges, is a pinnafe of aboute 45 tonns belonging to Captaine Legatt who we finde verie willinge and therefore have appointed him to goe Captaine in her, fhee is allredie victualled bie him and others for 3 monethes and will be readie this next daie to sett saile. The pinnafe he is contented to adventure him felfe upon hope of the bennifitt of the third parte of that w^{ch} maie be gotten in the Journey. For the victualling and mens wages as yet we have not determined at whose Charge the same shall goe: The oth^r For Cape (finnefter) is a carvell⁵²⁵ of aboute 21 tonns wherin goeth For Captaine and m^r one Thomas Nefonn, of this towne and departed From henfe this last night he hath in her wth him felfe 18 menn victualled For two monethes: the carvill and Company,

⁵²⁵ The carvel or caravel was a clumsy craft with a full round bow and square poop. It was rigged like a galley, with lateen or triangular sails suspended by a long yard at an angle of about forty-five degrees. Such sails could only be conveniently used on vessels of moderate size, hence the caravel rarely exceeded the burden of a hundred tons, and was usually much smaller.

These three small vessels were sent out to observe the movements of the Spaniards, and to make a prompt report to Gorges at Plymouth. One was to proceed to the vicinity of the Barlenga, another to lie off Cape Finisterre, and a third to watch near Scilly Island for a foe approaching by the Bristol Channel.

pany goe upon their thirdes onlie the victualling part is at her ma^{ties} charge, For (Sillie) we have taken upp a pinnafe of this towne w^{ch} shalbe made readie wth all possible speede, and so yo^r Lpps shalbe advertised what the whole charge will amount unto, w^{ch} is to be borne by her ma^{tie}: Wee doe not understand that their are in theise partes any of the Captaines menconed in y^r Lpps Lẽrs wherfore the Importance of the service considered we thought it not meete to lose any time by attending their comming:

Wee have heire Intelligence by fondrie persons that about 30 daies past theire weare at Baion in galizia⁵²⁶ above 30 failes of Spanish Shippes of warr bounde for Lisbona to Joine wth others For the makinge of an armie w^{ch} as the generall reporte goeth, is to come for England or Ireland, but in particuler as some doe reporte for this porte of Plimouth: It is said they bring wth them at the least 40 Seminarie Priestes,⁵²⁷ the most parte of them English men: Thus much we have thought it o^r duties to advertise unto yo^r Lpps: And so doe verie humblie take our Leave, Plimouth the third of November ann^o 1596.

Yo^r Lpps humblie at commaundm^t/

HUMFREY FONNES

FARD: GORGES.

Maior.

W^m STALLENGE.

Add: To the Right Honorables the Lo^s: of her Ma^{tie} Moste honorable privie Counsell. End: 3 No: 1596. Mayo^r of Plymmothe S^r Far: Gorges M^r Stallenge to y^e Lls. Concerning their setting out of 3 Pynneffes for to discover, according to their Lo^{ps} dyreccons. 1 p.

(Cecil

⁵²⁶ Bayona is an open haven in the Province of Galicia.

⁵²⁷ Priests educated in the Spanish seminaries were at this time the dread of all Protestant Englishmen, as they

were looked upon as deadly enemies of the State, and when taken were often summarily disposed of by the halter and knife.

(Cecil Papers 46/55.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humble dutie remembred. Maye it please yo^r honor to be advertised accordinge to your letter, dated the 13th of this p^rsent. I have made inquirie of the prises of Corne, and is heare folde in the markett for 14 and 15^s the busshell and it is greatelie feared if this be not fold accordinge to yo^r honors former order, it will rise to be at 20^s. The quantitie of it is a hundred threscore and fix tunes, the burden of the shippe is 200, so as it is supposed there is munition aswell as wheat. Wherefore in my poore opinion (under yo^r honors Correction) it were necessarie that it might be unlodden as wee hadde alredie taken order it shoulde be, in especially Considering howe harde a matter it is to perswade the people that they goe not to the spanierdes when it is so generallie knowne they have made suche provision that noe men shall passe their Coast before they have served their owne turnes, uppon what nasyon or whose subjectes soever wth owt the respect of anye passe or lycenc that they can have: more I thought it my duetie to advertise yo^r honor, had not yo^r warrant of staye Come as it did they necessitie of the poore woulde have inforced them to have offered som owtrage, bothe uppon the shippe and goodes. The Consideraçon of all w^{ch} I leave unto yo^r honors wisdom: I receaved other letters of the 03th of this present for the raiseing of 50 men to make my former number, 100, the one of them from their L^{ps} and an other from my Lorde yo^r honors father that from my L. directed me unto a letter

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from

from yo^r honor, the w^{ch} I have not as yet receaved, so as I can faye nothings unto hit The Pynnyfes and Carvell attendeth onelie the wynde, all thoughe there be no monye to be gotten from the Customer:⁵²⁸ for my owne parte I doe use all the meanes I can possibley for the furnisheing of the Forte and Island, but I am owt all that ever I am able to make of my owne, or by Credit of my friendes, and my truste is that by yo^r honors meanes fourth wth their may be heare Continuallie in the handes of some honest man a proportion of money for the furnisheinge of such occasions as shall be needeful from tym to tym: If some such Course be not taken the want of hit will soone be found.

praieinge for the increase of yo^r honor, I humblye take my leave. From the Forte at Plymouthe the 16th of November 1596.

Yo^r honors to comaunde / FARD: GORGES.

p^t script As concerninge the price of the corne yo^r ho: writes to understande of I thought it meetest to refer it to the Relasion of the Maior and others of Plymouth, whoe knowe better then my self the differenc betweene Market Corne and Shipp corne, and will be humble futers to yo^r honor in that behalf.

Add. To the Right honorable S^r Robert Cifill knight principale Secreatarye to her Mat^{ie}. End: 16 No: 1596 S^r Fard: Gorges to my M^r Certifieing what quantitie of wheat is in the Duke of Florence shippe there stayd. 1 p.

⁵²⁸ That is, the officer of customs at Plymouth.

(Cecil Papers 46, 99.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

OUR humble duties unto your honnor remembrede. this laste daie here arived a brittaine boate and in her certain engleshe marchaunts w^{ch} departed from Morles,⁵²⁹ the seconde of this moneth, wher they saie it was reportede that of the Spaineshe fleete there were 38 faile caste awaye in the baye of Arcaxon⁵³⁰ on the coast of biscaye and other 30^{tie} faile uppon the Sems, wth the greteste parte of the men that weare in them. Herewth it maye please yo^r honor to receave the examination of one of the faide marchaunts wth whom the rest doe all agree but neither of them can yelde anie good reason howe the newes was brought to Morles or by whom, as wee shall understande more sertentie yo^r honnor shalbe advertieside therof. Capten crofts and Captan Harper as yet have hade no winde to departe from hence, Accordinge to yo^r honnors letters the Fleminge is contentide and hathe alredie unladen some parte of his wheate, but under our promise to see him paide his fraighte here for so muche corne as he dothe delivere, w^{ch} wee thought reasonable consideringe the Duke is bownd to paye but for that w^{ch} hee dothe Recē wherfore wee humblie praye your honnors letters in that behalf unto James Bagge⁵³¹ or in his absents to his servant

⁵²⁹ That is, from Morlaix, a small trading-town in Bretagne, on the north coast of France.

⁵³⁰ Baffin d'Arcachon, a bay on the coast of France.

⁵³¹ Sir James Bagge was a man of enterprife and daring, a dependant of

Buckingham, whose fortunes he faithfully followed to the end. He was mayor of Plymouth in 1595, a year noted in its annals for the death of two of England's greatest admirals, Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Hawkins. He represented Plymouth in Parliament

fervant Thomas Glanvile w^{ch} dothe Receī the Corne that they fee the m^r paide his freight according to his Charterpartie foe as wee be not trobled for the fame.

Off late here arived a barke of Hampton w^{ch} about 30^{tie} daies paste mette wth 13 sayle of Hamburgers goeing in to Lisborne laden wth Corne of w^{ch} shee tooke one of about 300 tonnes: The Hulke that is here hathe Charterparties in Dutche Italian and Spanishe that in Spanish wee have seene wherby the m^r is bownde to go wth his ladinge directlie for Leghorne and not to enter in to anye other porte but keepe the sea unles uppon verie extreame occations but wth theise condiçōns that if at his comminge to Leghorne his Corne by longe lyinge at the sea or other mishappes be not suche as is meete to be recevide the Duke maye leave the fame and not paie hime anye freighte or other duties. Farther if the m^r by force of weather or other waies should enter into any other porte and ther unlade his corne. That then hee is to seeke his freighte of suche as shall receī the fame. And the Duke to be freedde theirowth without any farder condiçōn to binde the m^r to make certiefficate, or use any other diligence to prove by what meanes he was inforcede to come in to anye such porte. So that the m^r (if he please) maye as well go for Lisborne as the reste and not therby incure anye danger at all againste the Duke of Tuscan. thus much wee have thought it meete to advertise and foe beseeching the allmightie for the longe Continuance of
yo^r

ment in 1604, and the next year was again elected its mayor. He received the honor of knighthood on September 19th, 1625, and accompanied Bucking-

ham on his disastrous expedition to the isle of Rhé, where he fell while making a fruitless attack on an intrenched camp of the enemy, October 29th, 1627.

yo^r honnors prosperous healthe doe humblie take our leaves
Plymouth the 4th of December 1596

Your honnors humblie at commande / FARD: GORGES.

[Signature torn off.]⁵³²

Add: To the Righte honnorable S^r Robert Cecill knight prinsepall secretarie to
her matie. End: 4 Dec. 1596 S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 47/16.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humble duty remembred. may it please your Ho: to
be advertised, that the 8th of this present here was a man of
Rotterdam, whose name is Peter Fecke m^r of a shippe called
the blacke Egle of the fame towne, that was taken fownd-
inge of the Harbour from the one side unto the other, what
his meaning was therin I knowe not, but the time beinge
such as yt is yt Cannot be but suspicious wherfore in dis-
charge of my duty I thought it meete to advertise your Ho:
of yt. I have examined divers that have knowne him of
longe time, both English men and his owne country menn
of the manner of his life and Conversation hertofore, and
they all doe seeme to protest much for his honesty and
simple intent, as having a desire only to acquaynt himfelfe
wth the harbour taking it to be a thinge belonginge unto
him as he was a mariner, not thinkinge he had committed
any offence, but I have taken order for his forth Comming
and do meane that he shall rest here untill I know further
your Ho: pleasure.

The

⁵³² From parts of the flourish left, dorsement, it was torn off before the
the signature torn off was evidently letter was sent.
Stallenge's. Judging from the en-

The Shippinge that Commeth from Rochell and Burdeux and those parts, doe all of them Confirm our last to your Ho: Concerning the Casting-away of the Spaniards, & all of them after one manner, as I cann by any meanes discover any more certeyntie your Ho: shall receyve y^t from time to time, according to my duty, Committing the preservation of your Ho: to the Almightye, I humbly take my leave, from the fort at Plimoth this 10th of December 1596.

Your Ho: to Command / FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the Right honorable S^r Robert Ceccill knight principall secretary to her mat^{ie} End: 10 December 1596 S^r Ferdnande Gorges to my master. Concerning a Fleming that founded the harborough. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 48/44.)

THE MATTER IN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TOWN OF
PLYMOUTH AND SIR F. GORGES.

As touchinge causes in question before the lords and others of her Ma^{ts} most honorable privie Councell betweene the Maio^r of Plymouth and the inhabitants of the same of the one partie, and S^r Ferdinando Gorgers knight Cap^{en} of the fort there latelie erected of the other partie. The said Maio^r and Inhabitants for avoydinge of all inconvenyencies that may hereafter enfue, Humblie pray yo^r lls. it may be fet downe as an order under yo^r Hands to be from henceforth duly observed.

First whereas the said S^r Ferdinando Gorges will not have the Maio^r of the said Burrough being a Justice of peace
wthin

wthin the same, to have to doe wth the examininge or punishinge of anie the soldiers belonginge to y^e forte for any cause of felony, or for other offences punishable committed wthin the said Towne or Burrough; wherein the said Maio^r and inhabitants humblie pray yo^r lls: resolucon.

And whereas the said S^r Ferdinando seeketh to have the soldiers appertayninge to the said fort to be freed from arrest wth the mace wthin the said Burrough for causes of debt and such like; The said Maio^r & inhabitants humblie praie yo^r lls. resolucon therein, the same tendinge to the losse of the Charter in denyinge Justice to anie.

And the said Maio^r and inhabitants humblie pray of allowance of their jurisdiccions, liberties and aucthorities as they heretofore have had and enjoyed by the graunt of her Ma^{ts} most noble progenitors: And that it will please yo^r lls. to set downe order that S^r Ferdinando Gorges intermedle not wthin the same for anie cause of justice, as in yo^r lls: former articles under seale ready to be shewed is set downe; nor to commaund the Maio^r by precept or otherwise as he hath done.

And where S^r Ferdinando Gorges a while since caused one John Hele a younge man of the Towne deputie Towne Clarke to be imprested in his sight to serve at the Island, the said Hele being sent to him in a message from the Maio^r of the Towne. That it will please yo^r lls. to sett downe order for his discharge, And that the same order may extend to restraine the said S^r Ferdinando to imprest anie person inhabitinge hereafter wthin the said Burrough.

And whereas at the request of the said S^r Ferdinando and the present necessitie of the service, at the suddaine cominge

cominge to the Towne of the Companies of soldiers there, the said Maio^r and Inhabitants of the Towne (altho the cause concerned the Countrey generally, and not the Towne in particuler) yelded to the charge of lodginge of the soldiers, and fyrewood for their Court of guard kept wthin the fort, w^{ch} hath already cost the said Towne above £120, of w^{ch} charges the said Maio^r and inhabitants pray from henceforth to be dismissed & freed, and that they maie have yo^r lp. warrant for the same, for that they be not able anie longer to contynewe it.

And where the said S^r Ferdinando Gorges requireth to muster the inhabitants of the Towne when he pleaseth, and giveth out speeches to drawe the Companies and forces of the Towne when and as farr as he listeth; The said Maio^r and inhabitants pray that the Maio^r for the tyme beinge wth other expert men of the Towne may have libertie to traine and muster the inhabitants of the Towne as heretofore they have used accordinge to the statute made Annis 4 et 5 P. et M. cap. 3. tit. musters: And that S^r Ferdinando be restrained to drawe anie the inhabitants into the Fort or Island, or otherwise to carry them anie where out of the Towne, but upon spetiall occasion, and that no further neither but as they may retorne againe in a short tyme to the Towne for safegarde of the same if cause require. yet alwayes allowinge the said S^r Ferdinando to take view and surveye of the musters of the Towne.

End: 1596. The matter in difference betwene y^e Towne of Plymmothe and S^r Fardinando Gorges. I 1-4 pp.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 37/45.)

THE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH, SIR F. GORGES, AND OTHERS
TO SIR R. CECIL.

OURE humble duties unto you^r hono^r Remembred/ By you^r hono^{rs} ſres wee underſtande that Philippp Curſin hathe complayned of us Concerninge the wheate here landed oute of the Dutche ſhippe, wherin he hathe greatlye abuſed you^r hono^r and done us wronge For ſo muche as the ſaide wheate was nether Receaved or meaſured by anye of us, Butt by M^r Bagg his Servante as it was appointed he beinge Curſin his Fa^ctor Nether have we ſett him anye price but that he hathe and maye ſell the ſame to whome, and howe he lyſte for his moſte advantage ſo as it be not carried oute of the Realme; by yo^r hono^{rs} firſte ſres wee were appointed to unlade one or two hundred quarters of the ſaid wheate wincheſter meaſure, and for ſo muche we gave order unto M^r Bagg his Servante as by his ſres here wth he dothe Certefie Curſin, as alſo that nether of us have hade anye Farder to doe there wth, and ſo cravinge you^r hono^{rs} Favourable Conſtructions of oure procedinge herein wee humblie take oure leaves Plimouthe the 6th of Januarie 1596.

You^r good Lo^{pps} humblie at commaundemente /HUMFREY FONNES
Maioire.FARD: GORGES.
CHR: HARRIS.
W^m STALLENGE.

Add: To the righte honorable S^r Robert Cecill knight Principall Secretarie to her Ma^{ty}. End: 6 Jan. 1596. Mayo^r of Plymmoth. S^r Far: Gorges. M^r Harrys. M^r Stalleng. to my M^r Phillip Curcyna. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 37/46.)

THE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH, SIR F. GORGES, AND OTHERS
TO THE COUNCIL.

OURE humble duties unto you^r good Lo^{pps} Remembred. This laste daye here arived Capten Legatt in a Galego⁵³³ Boate w^{ch} 8 daies paste he tooke thre Leagues from Sezark uppon the coste of Galizia he hathe broughte wth him two Spaniardes whose examinaçons wee do sende unto you^r Lo^{pps} herein closed, The parties we have thoughte meete to keepe here untell you^r Lo^{ppes} pleasures bee Farder knowne what shalbe donne wth them; As also howe these Charges shalbe defrayed for that Capten Legatt hathe delivered them over unto us. The saide Capten Legatt woulde willinglie have made his present repaire to the Corte, Butt findethe him selfe unable by reason of his greate travell in Retorninge home from the Coste of Galeza onelye wth two of his Companie, The two Spaniardes and a boye; Before his goinge forthe from hence wee gave him £10 towards his Charge and Delivered you^r Lopp^s Instruçons unto him for the performance of this service, But for so muche as he hathe lefte his owne Barke and Hazarded himselfe to Retorne wth these Advertisments his hope is by you^r good Lo^{pps} moste honorable Favours to obtayne of her Ma^{ti} some better Rewarde; w^{ch} leavinge to you^r honores
Farder

⁵³³ The Galicians were called Galegos. Corunna and Ferrol are situated. In Sezark is doubtles Cifarga, a small spelling the word the writer probably imitated the sound of the Spanish as of the river in which the harbors of nearly as he could.

Farder Confideraçons wee humblie take oure leave; Plimouth the 6th of Januarie 1596.

Your good Lordshippes humblie at commandme'/

HUMFREY FONNES FARD: GORGES.

Maior. CHR: HARRIS.

W^m STALLENGE.

Add: To the righte honorable or verie good Lordes the Lo^s of her Ma^{tis} moste honorable Previe Counsell. End: 6 Jan: 1596. Mayo^r of Plymmothe. S^r Far: Gorges. M^r Harrys. M^r Stalleng. to y^r Lls. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 37/47.)

SIR F. GORGES AND MR. BAGGS TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONORABLE; my humble duetie remembred; perceaveinge by Curfinis supplication as also your honors letter, there hath been Complaynte made of the negligence of me and the rest in this matter of wheate, wherein hee hath donne us more wronge then by anye meanes he receaved cause from us; for there was noe more unladen, then by your honors firste letters wee receaved order for; And as concerninge the measure of hit, his Factor muste make aunfweare; for there was not anye man that intermedled in it, but him self, save that he Required me to be aided by some of my officers for that the skeppor seemed mutanus, And not to respect the aucthoritie that was sent./ Next, for the sale of it, hit was foulded in the markett at the best rate that it woulde yeilde wthowt anye price set on hit by us, but leaveinge it to his factor to make his best; and the Corne beinge so ill Conditioned as it was. he hath noe reason to thincke, he shoulde receave anye great Losse by felling

selling it after 10^s the busshell the moste parte of hit beinge
so bad, as the skipper did confesse he shoulde be forced to
caste it over borde for the preservation of the reste; The
effect of this hath been written by M^r Bagge unto Cursyn
him self, as also M^r Bagge hath subscribed unto this as
being moste trewe./ for my owne parte I hope your honor is
perswaded that I woulde not be so negligent of yo^r honors
pleasure, and therefore doe humbly desire yo^r honors moste
assured opinion of me, unto whom I have and doe moste
unfaynedlye desire to shewe my love and duetiefull service./
And so I most humblie take my leave. From the Forte at
Plymouth the 6 of January

Yo^r honors at Comaund /

FARD: GORGES.
JAMES BAGGE.

p^t script.

The particulars of the newes of Capten Legot, your
honor shall Receave in a generall letter unto their L^{ps}
the copie whereof M^r Stallinge hath sent unto yo^r
honor inclosed in his owne.

Add: To the Right honorable S^r Robert Cicill knight principale Secreatarye to
her Matie. End: 6 Jan 1596 S^r Far. Gorges. Mr Bagge to my M^r concerning
Phillip Curcyna. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 38/15.)

THE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH, SIR F. GORGES, AND W. STAL-
LENGE TO THE COUNCIL.

OURE humble dueties unto youre good Lo^{pps} Remembred/
This laste daie here arived the Barke Pearce wherin Cap-
ten Croftes wente forthe havinge losse feaven of her men
w^{ch}

w^{ch} were overthrowne wth there Boate in the Bordinge of a Spanishe Carvell and lefte other Five aboarde a Bisken shippe laden wth Iron wherin the faide Barke Pearce and her Companye are to have there shares wth a shippe of Hampton and a Frenchemman of Rochell, But as we suppose the Frenchemen beinge the greater number in the prize have caried her for Rochell where there wilbe small hope to recover anye parte thereof, wee will forthe wth discharge the Barke and Companye that are come home in her and satisfie what shal be due unto them althoughe as yett we have not foulded anye parte of the goodes that was brought home by Capten Croftes, whereby to defraye the Charges thereof, nether cane we receave of the Customer that w^{ch} is oweinge for the victuallinge of her and the Carvell at there goinge forthe; As well by the m^r of this Barke as by others latelie here arived w^{ch} departed from the Coste of Galizia aboute 14 daies past, we understand that of the kinges Fleett there remayned at Feroll 140 sayle whereof 30 gallies and that there fouldiers remayned lodged a Broad in the Countreye withe in 30 leagues of Feroll where they have caused a greate dearthe of victualls and especiallie of Bread; That the sicknes Continueth still amonge those at Feroll, That the Adelantado⁵³⁴ had bene sente for by the kinge but excused his goinge by reason of his sickenes; That the kinge hathe Caused to be prepared at Lifborne 20 small Carvells to Joyne wth the reste of his Fleett. And as it was generallye reported the armye woulde be redie to departe in Aprill nexte; We daylie expecte the Comminge of Capten Harper by whome we hope to receave more Certaine intelligence where

⁵³⁴ Don Martin de Padeglia.

where of you^r Lo: shalbe advertized; We have heere made staye of a Frencheman supposing him to be a spie but as yett cane finde nothinge wherby to prove the same, he is a man of a bout 30 yeares and departed from his dwellinge place (beinge as he saithe) neere unto Marcellias in Fraunce, aboute fower yeares paste; From whence he wente to Geneva, From thence into Hungarie and so throughe Germanie he came into the low Countries, and thence to London where he arived aboute 13 monethes paste, fethence w^{ch} tyme he hathe traveled the moste parte of Englande and wales along the sea coaste and is now come to this towne from Dartmouthe to seeke passage for his countrie; His apparell is verye Bare and monye he hathe nott anye but that w^{ch} is geven him, if uppon Farder examinacon wee finde anye matter in him youre Lo: shalbe advertized thereof, But as yett he seemeth unto us not to be of Capacitie Fitt for anye suche service, Wee are daylie called on by those w^{ch} pretend intereste in the goodes brought home by Capten Croftes; and the shippe and companie of Spaniardes lye heere at greate charges, wherefore wee praye youre Lo: pleasures what Farder Course shalbe taken therein;

And so doe humblie take our leaves, Plimouthe the firste of Februarie 1596.

Your good Lo^{pps} humble at Comman^dmente /

HUMFREY FONNES
Maioire.

FARD: GORGES.
W^m STALLENGE.

Add: For her Maties affares. To the righte honorable oure verye good Lordes The Lo. of her Mat^{is} moste honorable previe counfell. End: pr^{mo} Feb 1596. The Mayor of Plymmothe. S^r Fa: Gorges. M^r Stalleng. to y^r Lls. The Barke Pearce arrived wth y^e losse of 7 of her men in boording a Spanishe Carvell. A Frencheman stayed there and supposed to be a Spie. 1 p.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 38/22.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humble dutie to your Ho: remembred, whereas it pleased your hon: to commande that the reporter of the newes shoulde be sente upp it is so that he departed from hence towards London Tenne dayes fythence to make sute for his entertaynemente for his voyage unto the Indies with S^r Frauncis Drake in the which action he was taken, so as M^r Mydeleton wylbe best able to fatisfie your hon: pleasure in that behalfe; it pleased your ho: by your laste to geve me notice of leave graunted me for my repayer unto the Courte, but unto this present I have not seene it. humblie cravage pardon for my boldnesse I humblie take my leave and doe hartelie praie for the increase of your ho: From the foarte this sixte of februarye 1596.

Yo^r ho: ever to be commanded / FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the righte ho: S^r Roberte Ciffill knight principal Secretarie to her Ma^{ty} at courte these. End: 6: Feb: 1596 S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r. 1-2 p.

(Cecil Papers 38/24.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL

My humble dutie unto yo^r hon: remembred of late there is arrived in Portesmouthe a flyboote taken by three men of warre on the coaste of spayne bounde for Lisborne laden wth wheate, Copper, and Cabells, and one of this three was the barke of Cap: Legates sente out by us wth order from your hon: for matter of intelligence at the charge of the owner himselfe; Cap: Sanders, M^r Stallenge and my selfe; nowe we humblie praie your honours favour towards the
bringer

bringer heereof Cap: Legatte; whome we have appoynted to folifete the whole for an indifferente courſe to be helde ſo as we may have that which belongeth unto us: and it is reaſon if your honour ſhall ſo thinke well of it, that Cap: Legatt ſhould be permytted to have ſome previledge before the reſte ſithe he was ſente forth in her Ma^{ts} ſervice and performed it accordinge unto his direction and by that favorable confideraçon others wilbe encouraged to be the more carefull to performe their duties in the like caſe humblie recommending it unto your ho: favorable confideraçon, and yo^r ho: unto the proteccion of th almightie I take my leave from the foarte the ſeventhe of February 1596.

Yo^r ho: ever to be commaunded / FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the Right ho: S^r Robert Ciſſell knight principale ſecretarie to her Ma^{tie}. End: 7 Feb: 1596 S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r A Flye boate loaden wth wheat, Cables and Cupper, taken on y^e coaſte of Spaine and brought into Portſmouth by three Engliſhe men of warre. By Cap^{en} Legatt. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 38/30.)

THE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH, SIR F. GORGES, AND W. STALLENGE TO THE COUNCIL.

OURE humble Duties unto youre good Lo:^{pps} remembred. This laſte daye we receaved youre Lo: ſres of the thirde hereof whereby we are Commaunded to ſende upp the Pipe Bordes and Iron plates for hoopes unto M^r Quarles⁵³⁵ and M^r Darell, w^{ch} we meane to doe ſo ſoone as Conveniente ſhippinge maye be hade for them, The reſte of the goodes ſhalbe ſoulde to the moſte value that canne be made of them, w^{ch} we thinke will not exceede the rates alredie ſett
downe

⁵³⁵ Afterwards Sir Robert Quarles, knighted at Newmarket, March 5th, 1607.

downe, butt rather lesse by reason of a nother Bisken shippe broughte in heere of late wth good store of the like Commodities;

Her Mat^{ties} thirde parte of the prize sente in by Capten Harper is folde accordinge to the Schedule we sente unto your Lo: Excepte the planks w^{ch} we valued at 18^d and are folde for 2^s the planke, In the Bisken shippe we have placed Englishe mariners and doe allowe them for keepinge of her 14^s everie weeke;

Where as wee are Commaunded to sende awaye the mariners of the faide shippe into Fraunce and to sende upp the Spaniardes that were taken in her, It maye please your good Lo: there were broughte home in the faide prize 19 men and one boye, of w^{ch} there is one Frencheman and 17 Biskens all mariners. The other two were passengers, the one of them beinge a marchante and Owner of the moste parte of the goodes And the other a boye that wente for Cevill to seeke service, wherefore we praye youre Lo: Farder derections whether we shall send awaye onlie the Frencheman and sende upp all the reste of the Bisken mariners (or howe manye of them) and whether wee shall sende them upp by sea or lande; as also what shalbe done wth the Spanishe mariners that were sente home by Capten Harper and Capten Legatt;

And so do humblie take our leaves, Plimouthe the 13th of Februarie 1596.

Your good Lo:^{pps} humblie at commandment /

HUMFREY FONNES

FARD: GORGES.

Maiore.

W^m STALLENGE.

Add: To the right honorable oure verie good Lordes The Lo: of her Mat^{ties} moste honorable previe Counsell. End: 13 Feb. 1596. Mayo^r of Plymmothe.
Sr Fa: Gorges. Mr Stalleng. to y^r Lls. 1 p.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXII. No. 88.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHTE HONORABLE: Yf I seeme to yo^r hono^r troblesome, for seekinge the obteyninge of a matter of Soe smale Consequens, Yet my hope is that I shall purchase a favorable construccion: For that I desier to haue it expresse in playne wordes what her Majesties pleasuer and your Lo: is, I shoulde doe at tymes of occa[~]on; Bie the vertue of whose Authoritie I shall take from my sealse all colour of excuse; Whereas otherwise I shall leave my sealse doutfull what to doe, especially yf I be denyed to receaue authoritie for the performce of noe more then I am bounde to dischardge: And yf there be occa[~]on for me to use a Co[~]miffion, Yt wilbe necessarie that I haue yt, yf none, yet not hurtefull (in my opinyon) yt shoulde be graunted: Besides for the wante of the necessarie enlardgemente of yt, I shall growe fearefull in what manner or how to proceede, for that I shall ymagin I am debarde from those thinges the w^{ch} I am denyed expresse Authoritie for: For I beseeche yo^r honor to be assured, I will not willingly enterprise any thinge, more then I am able to shew co[~]miffion for; And I am assured yt wilbe to late for me to fende for one, when I shall haue occacon of the use thereof: And agayne my credit and reputacon wilbe thoughte to be smale, when it shalbe knowen I am not able to procuer thinges necessarie for my owne fastie, after dischardge of my bounden dutie: And soe may her Ma^{ties} s^rvice be neglected, and my sealse scorned: More I shall haue smale hope my honorable freendes, will Justifie me in a matter not justifiable, when they delay me of their meanes

to

to secuer me in discharginge my dutie; Humbly referringe yt to yo^r hono^{rs} favorable furtherñce, I reſte wth deſier of meanes to ſhew my ſealfe affuredly: /

Yo^r hono^{rs} at Coñmaunde / FARD. GORGES.

From HANWORTHE⁵³⁶ the xxviiijth of Marche: /

End: To the righte honorable S^r Roberte Cicill knight principall Secretary to her Maieſtie theſe: / 28 March 1597. S^r Fer: Gorges to my M^r Touching the explaining and enlarding of his Coñmiſſion. /

(State Papers, Domeſtic Correſpondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXII. No. III.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humble dewtie remembred. May it pleaſe yo^r Hono^r to be advertiſed that here is lately arryved one Cap: Auftyn of this towne, whoe came of the Coſte of Spaine the thirde of Aprill and of the Burlinges; ⁵³⁷ he mett wth Cap: Croftes, whoe deliuered him certeyne Spannyſhe and portingall letters, wth a letter unto me, w^{ch} I haue cauſed to be peruſed, but can finde nothinge in them; By his letter it ſeemethe he hath not as yet byn able to bringe that to paſſe that he deſirethe, he dothe alſoe write, that he harde only of Fortie eighthe ſayle of ſhippes that are att Faroulde and that there are twelue galleyes to come from Lyſhborne; & Capteyne Auftyn himſealfe reporteth that he underſtoode by certeyn Fiſher men (that he toke of Lyſhborne); That there was greate ſicknes in the army, and geñally greate ſcarcety
in

⁵³⁶ This was one of the temporary reſidences of the Queen, and Gorges had probably followed the Court there. It is a pleaſant drive of a couple of hours ſouthweſt from London.

⁵³⁷ The Barlenga, a cluſter of rocky iſlands in the Atlantic, three leagues weſterly from the coaſt of Portugal, were fortified and furniſhed good anchorage for ſhips.

in the Countrie, but in all places greate preperacons and provicon made for a voiage, but whether or unto what place, it was not knowen, but generally they gaue yt out, For Fraunce; more that for c'teyne there weare twelue galleyes departed from Lyfborne laden wth munycon and other provicon to goe to Faroulde,⁵³⁸ and by the way there weare twoe of them Caste away, and not one man faved that was in them: Further the faide Cap: reportethe that there weare seventy fayle in the Groine⁵³⁹ and Feroulde: Here is lately arrived a French man of whose cominge there hath byn longe fence notice given by m^{ch}ant of S^t John de Luse⁵⁴⁰ unto Marchaunts of this towne, to haue byn one that hath undertaken to bringe certeyne intelligens of the strenghte of this place, But as yet there is noe notes taken of him; But by my nexte to yo^r Hono^r you shall understande more: I haue accordinge to yo^r com^{ma}nde examyned wth M^r Maio^r⁵⁴¹ the Portingall lately aryvede but can finde nothinge more, then by his examynacon sent to yo^r Hono^r from M^r Maio^r, for the shipp we haue preceded accordinge to yo^r Hono^{rs} direccon; Soe wth my
humble

⁵³⁸ Ferrol was at this time a little fishing town, but possessed of an excellent harbor. It is in the Province of Galicia to the north of Portugal, and is now an important marine arsenal.

⁵³⁹ Corunna, the French Corogne, corrupted by the English to Grogne, is a fortified port of Spain, about three hundred miles northwest of Madrid. It was from here that the Armada failed to conquer England in 1588.

⁵⁴⁰ Saint-Jean-de-Luz is a town in France at the mouth of the river Nivelle. It was formerly an important port.

⁵⁴¹ The mayor to whom Sir Ferdi-

nando refers was Humphrey Founes. He was mayor of Plymouth at the time of the destruction of the Spanish Armada, and was re-elected in 1596. His family tomb is in the old church of St. Andrews. It is recorded as remarkable that during his last term of office "wheat was sold for 30s. bushell plym^o measure, and barley twelve," and that an order was made "for the regulation of fishwomen," who had "unduly multiplied." *Vide Plimouth Memoirs*, collected by James Yonge, 1684, edited by R. N. Worth, F.G.S., Plymouth, 1876, pp. 18, 20.

humble duty and hartie prayers to God for the increse of
yo^r hono^r I ende from the Forte att Plym^oth the xjth of
Aprill 1597./

Yo^r hono^{rs} att Comaunde/ FARD: GORGES.

End: To the Righte honorable S^t. Roberte Cicill knighte Chiefe Secretarie to
her Maiestie these. xj^{mo} April 1597./ S^t. Fa: Gorges to my M^r — from
Plymmothe Certen Spanishe aduises dd to Cap^{en} Austyn by Cap^{en} Crofts. A
suspicious Frenchman lately arryved there./

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXII. No. 144.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humble dutie remembred these are to giue Your hono^r
to understande that I haue caused a smale Penyce of my
owne to be made readie to goe directly for the groyne, and
Faroule, and I proteste unto God yf I had leaue I coulde
be well contented, to goe in her my sealse, for that I see not
that don that in my pore conceipte, I thinke fitt shoulde be
don; and I am thorowly perswaded yt is the office of a man
of reputac^on in that the tyme is as it is: For there can be
nothings more dangerous to our estate then securitie, the
w^{ch} infec^on our Nation hath ever byn Subiecte unto, and
that procedinge from the wante of intellygens from men of
Judgmente and reputac^on and I never yet prized my lyfe or
estate foe highe, as I woulde negle^cte to doe that the w^{ch} in
my consciens was fitt to be don for my contries good. Thus
much I am boulde to signifie unto your Ho: Whome I haue
in my p^ticuler byn foe much behouldinge unto, and att
whose comaundem^t I woulde be mo^ste willinge to undertake
foe

foe lawdable an enterprize. Referringe yt unto your honor wth defier of acceptñce of my service Yf yt may be thoughte profitable or neceffary: I humbly take my leaue From the Forte att Plymothe the 28th of Aprill 1597.

Your hon^r Ashoured to Comaund / FARD. GORGES.

End: For her Majesties Affaires: To the Righte Honorable S^r Robte Cecyll knighte principall secretary to her Matie/ 28 Apr: 1597. S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r: A Barke of his ready to goe to Sea./

(Cecil Papers 51/10.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE LORD HIGH ADMIRAL AND
SIR R. CECIL.

My houlbl dutey remembred y^e 19th of this instante I reseved this Leter herin clofed, fente unto me by S^r Franfes Godolfolim,⁵⁴² to be connvayed unto your Lls nother neues her is not any, but genarally exseptions taken that all manor of Charge shoulde be imposed upon the forcnores and the thin ores souferid to goo fre, and the gentillmen do refoullfe presently to seginefey theyer grefes unto your llo anewe, may your llo, be plesed to to thinke howe they may be aunfored, so as ther maye be no delaye or hindranse of hur Magestes servis when it shall comme unto it: by my nexte your ho: shall her what is doune conferringe the 600 men to be leved in deven and Cornawell: Soo prainge for the in crese of your honores I
houlbly

⁵⁴² Sir Francis Godolphin was a member of Parliament for Cornwall in the thirty-first year of the reign of Elizabeth, and also Governor of the island of Scilly. He is spoken of as a man of religious zeal, upright and prudent in affairs. Charles I. granted him a patent for coining silver in Cornwall.

houbly take my leve from bukeland this present beinge
the 19 of May 1597.

Your llo moſte houbly to be comanded /

FARD: GORGES.

Holograph. Add: for her Ma^{ties} ſpeciall affaires. To the right ho: my approved
good Lorde, the Lo: highe admirall, & the right ho: S^r Robert Cecyll knight
principall ſecretarie to her ma^{tie} give theiſe at y^e Court, haſt haſt, haſt, haſt
haſt. From Buckland⁵⁴³ at eleven of the Clocke in the forenoone. Fard.
Gorges. End: 19 May 1597 S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r. 1 p.

[Poſtmaſters' endorfements.]

At Afhburton at 6 of the clocke. At Exeter paſte 10 of the clocke in the night.
At Honiton at i of the clock in the morning. Recevyd att ckarne* 6 of y^e
clocke or paſte mornyng y^e 20 of Maye. R^d at Sherborn halfe an hour after
8 of the clock the 20th of Maye the forenone. Shaftore** at 12 of the clocke.
Sarum att 3 a clocke in after none being fry daye. [torn] Recefed att
Harfarbregg† [att] 12 of the [clock] att nig[ht]. Ande^r†† at 7 of the clocke
in the afternone beinge Fridaie. At Baſſingſtock at 10 of the clock at nyght.

* Crewkerne. ** Shaftesbury. † Harfordbridge. †† Andover.

(Cecil Papers 54/95.)

[Draft.] THE LORD ADMIRAL, THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN AND
SIR R. CECIL, TO GEORGE FENNER AND SIR F. GORGES.

GOOD GEORG FENNER There is now a meanes for you to
do her M^y ſome notable ſervice and for y^e low conty men
to free y^{em} ſelfs of theſe Gally w^{ch} are prineſpally deſtined
for ther grave, you ſhall underſtand y^t there rideth in the
bay of Hoggs nere She bank⁵⁴⁴ 6 Gallies, on Monday night
they rode cloſe aboard the ſhore the wind being full South
weſt

⁵⁴³ A poſt town a few miles north of France, and on the Engliſh Channel,
Plymouth. about ſeven leagues eaſt from Cape la

⁵⁴⁴ Cherbourg, on the north coaſt of Hogue.

west but blew so great a Gale as they durst not come on, we have already directed the shypps in y^e Narro Seas to ly for them as well as the wind and water will permitt but this wind standing as it is our hope must be in y^t w^{ch} shalbe don from the westward, And therefore we do in her M^s Name require you to take y^e benefitt hereof and to bring wth you any shypps y^t you shall find there Flemings or English w^{ch} are fitt for such a service and If ye find y^e Treulove take her wth you howsoever she is, you must therefore let y^e ad: of those Flemings y^t are there, understand y^t If now the shall not pay all respects as you and attend this voiage the Stats shall have occasion to condemn them of great negligence for the Q. hath written to them y^t she hath now sent you and them word of this and she is sure y^t they will not mislike anything w^{ch} they shall do uppon this occasion by her direction, we pray you therefore to do your best for this, and to make all y^e shyft you can to torne out, and If it shold be so, y^t y^e cold gett no other shypp without tarrying so, as to loose oportunity, yet come away yourself with yo^r owne shypp and y^e Trewlove and y^e Pynnace. Tarry not good Georg but do y^e best you can for we wold be very gladd y^t these Bagages might be catched or canvased, Assure yo^r self y^t yo^r shypp and y^e Trewlove will beate y^{em} If there were no more to asist you. And thus in all hast we end you shall also know y^t there are 3 or 4 small Frenchmen or Scots men in their company w^{ch} car[ry] their victuails, let no such pass unferched for they have Spaniards aboard though they be be fr: Bottoms.

G. Fennor. you are a wise man and have experience how to use stratagems, It will not be amiss If you
think

think good to lay a Bayte for them in this fort, yt some League before you some Bark may be sent, and take in her Ordonance as thogh she were no man of warr, w^{ch} peradventure may intise them from y^e shore to come of and take her but this we do but remember unto you leaving all things to your discretion, Expedition is now all, and Resolution, If you lyght on y^{em}, you will find good store of Treasur in y^{em}.

In Cecil's hand.

End: 29 August 97. Minuit, to Mr George Fenner and Sr Ferd. Gorges from my l: Admirall my lo: Chamberlain ⁵⁴⁵ and Mr Secretary. 4 pp.

(Cecil Papers 175/112.)

SIR F. GORGES TO LORD BURGHLEY.

My humble duty unto yo^r Lo: remembred; in my laste I signified unto yo^r Ho: of the order taken by my Lo: of Effex, for the victualinge and furnishinge of a smale Pynace to attende her Ma^{ts}: service under S^r: John Gylberte,⁵⁴⁶ the w^{ch} as I signified unto your Lo: was don upon my owne Creditt, and now S^r John beinge retorned and as yt semeth
his

⁵⁴⁵ Henry De Vere, Earl of Oxford. Though dissolute in his youth, he became one of the most distinguished men of his time. He was one of that noble band who accompanied the heroic Sir Horace Vere against the Spaniards under Spinola. From over-exertion and exposure in leading an assault upon the Spanish works, he contracted a fever from which he died.

⁵⁴⁶ This Sir John was the son of Sir Humphrey Gilbert and brother of Raleigh Gilbert, one of the Popham Colony; hence the nephew of the Sir John mentioned in note 491, *antea*. "He prac-

tised arms agreeable to the brave spirit of his ancestors: Was held an Expert and ancient soldier even in his younger years wherein he expired; was taken away when he gave not only hope but full assurance of great sufficiency to do his prince and country service." He died July 5th, 1608, and was buried in Marlton Church on the 19th. He died just as the last supply ship was failing for the Sagadahoc, and the news of his death was borne by her to his brother Raleigh; which was the final blow to the hopes of the Colony. *Vide* note 109, *antea*.

his victualls spent: I woulde gladly know yo^r Lo: pleasuer whether yee or noe she shoulde longer be continued, upon her Ma^{ts}: charges otherwise that both shee and her men may be dismisste, wthout puttinge her Ma^{te}: to any farther charge, and I doe agayne humblye pray yo^r Lo: order for paymente of her victualls, her mens wages, and her tun-nedge, and doe beseeche yo^r Lo: to confider shee hath losse the oportunitie of her voiage, for the w^{ch} shee was provided havinge spent twoe monethes victuals before she was taken for her Ma^{ts}: service, my estate is not able to forbear yt Longer I proteste unto yo^r Lo: wth out doinge those that gave me creditte greate wronge; For the Flemynge (broughte in by S^r John) shee is taken to be of good valew, whereof I doubte not, but he hath himselfe att lardge acquaynted yo^r Lo: I sende yo^r Lo: alsoe the number of armes, lefte by my Lo: att his departuer, shewinge the particulers from whome they weare receaved, they are much ympayred and many of them very unserviceable, and I woulde gladly see them put in reparacons, but I woulde know how to be repayed, for I finde yt soe harde a matter to recover what I lay out for the contrie as I am almoste discouraged; as for newes here is not any fence tharivall of M^r Ofburne, as sone as any shall arrive I will advertice yo^r Ho: of yt: Even soe wth my hartye prayers for yo^r Lo: good health I humbly take my leave; from the Forte att Plymothe the 27th of September 1597.

Yo^r Lo: humbly att comaunde/ FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the righte Ho: my very good Lo: the Lo: highe Treasurer of Englande.
End: 27 [torn off] S^r Far: Gorges to my Lo: Whether his Pynnesse shall contynue any longer in her Ma^{ts} charge. Inventorie of y^e armes dd him by y^e E of Essex. 1 p.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 56/10.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humble duty unto yo^r Ho: remembred: may yt please you to understande, this day here arived a man of St John de Leuse whose name is martyn Ogarfabal, whoe reporteth that eleven dayes fence beinge in Bayonnde in Galefey⁵⁴⁷ there came a spanish souldier from Farould:, whose newes was, that their fleete consistinge 120: sayle greate and smale, weare gon from thens to the Groyne, where they remayne all readye to sett sayle, but whether to goe noe man knoweth some reporte to seeke our fleete, some for Irelande others for Inglande:⁵⁴⁸ in the fleete there is many lande souldiers, but what number he likewise knoweth not, they have made greate proviçon of lyme that they carrye wth them, alsoe he reporteth that they have many horses and Oxen, wth them, the cause as the souldier reporteth whye they come unto the Groyne, was for that they coulde not gett out of Faroulde wth a southerly winde: How trew this is, or what liklyhoode yt hath, I referr the consideraçon of yt, unto yo^r wisdom and better knowledge: Knowinge that you know that yt is better not to say, what they will doe, but what they may doe, and to prevente what
is

⁵⁴⁷ Bayona in Galicia.

⁵⁴⁸ The English fleet under the command of Effex, Howard, and Raleigh had sailed from Plymouth on the 17th of August to strike a decisive blow at Spain, and at this time was beating its way homeward without having achieved the success which had been anticipated for it. Spain was marshalling her forces

and equipping her fleets for defensive and offensive operations, which properly kept the English upon the alert, and gave rise to constant rumors of invasion. While the Spanish king contemplated another attack upon England, he was not in a condition at this time to make it, as Sir Walter Raleigh contended.

is possible, rather then to leave yt att had I wiste, pardon me I beseech you, my meanyng is good, and my hartes prayer ys that all may be well; wth a desier that yt will please you to comaunde me, in what my service may shew my affeccion, wth unfeyned assuraunce that I ame alwayes:

Yo^r Ho: humblye att comaunde:/ FARD: GORGES.

From the fort by PLYMOTH the 11th of Octo^ber 1597.

Add. To the righte Ho: Sr Roberte Cycyll knyghte principall Secretary to her Mat^{ie}. End: 1597 11 Oct. Sr Far: Gorges to my M^r Spanishe advises delivered by one of S^t Io: de Luz. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 56/39.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humble dutie unto yo^r Ho: remembred; by yo^r Ho: letter of the 16th of Octo^ber, I am required to see M^r Osborne accommodated wth all thinges necessary to hasten him unto the sea; the w^{ch} accordinge unto my bounden dutie I am readye to performe and have to that ende procured them to bespeake and cause all thinges to be provided in a readines attendinge only yo^r Ho: annswere unto their letter for their direccion how mony shall be receaved, for my owne parte I proteste I have yt not besides I am in a manno^r discouraged, for that I have foe often disbuffed my mony and I reste yet unpayed, wherefore I am enforced to be a troublesome suter unto yo^r Ho: to be my meanes for recovery thereof, and doe refer the myfarable grife thereof unto yo^r Ho: wise consideraçon; I have written two letters unto my lo: yo^r Ho: father, but can receave noe annswere, where or from whome I shall receave yt; I referr my sealfe
unto

unto yo^r ho: from whome I hope for ease, and unto whome
I will ever remayne unfaynedly

Yo^r. ho: to comaunde/ FARD: GORGES.

If this wind houlde in this quarter I beceche your ho^s to
remember that our frendes will have hongrey belles: & it
wer to be wished: that they had on 3 or 4 flybotes wth
vitalles, to helpe them home wth all.

The body of this letter by amanuenss; the postscript in Gorges' hand.

Add: To the right Ho: S^r Roberte Cycyll knight principall secretary to her
Ma^{tie}: End: 20 Oötober 1597 S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my M^r. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 56/44.)

SIR F. GORGES AND C. HARRIS TO SIR R. CECIL.

YOUR Ho: shall by this bringer be adverticed the per-
ticulers of what I should write unto yo^r Ho: of att lardge
notwthstandinge I thought yt fitt to give an accoumpt what
I purpose presently to doe in dischardge of my dutie in this
place the w^{ch} is instantly to put into the Islande 200: men
wth victualls for 14: dayes, to take in 200: more into the
Forte out of the Countrie Makinge for that place, the like
proviçon, yf yt be her ma^{ts}: gracious pleasuer not to make
allowaunce of this, that I may presently by yo^r ho: receave
notice of yt, that they may agayne be discharged, and the
proviçon be redelivered, likewise I doe take in all the ordi-
nance and munyçon that I can possible, and how yt alsoe
pleaseth, her Ma^{tie} to make allowaunce of yt, I pray yo^r ho: I
may understande wth warr for what I have don, or shall doe
upon this necessitie this adverticem^{ts} I have sente unto those
of

of authoritie in Devon and Cornewall, I hope I shall not neede to write any more but doe humbly refer the reste unto yo^r ho: wifdome: And foe wth remembraunce of my humble duty I humbly take my leave, From the Forte by Plymoth this 23th of October 1597:

Yo^r ho: humbly att comaunde/ FARD: GORGES.
CHR. HARRIS.

I have sente yo^r ho: his examynaçon wth his owne hande writinge.

Add: To the righte ho: Sr Roberte Cycyll knight principall secretary to her Matie. End: 1597 23 Oct. Sr Fa: Gorges to my M^{rs} Orders by him taken for Renforcing the Fort and Iland uppon an allarom of th approach of the Spanishe Fleet. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 175/121.)

LORD THOMAS HOWARD,⁵⁴⁹ LORD MOUNTJOY,⁵⁵⁰ SIR WALTER RALEGH,⁵⁵¹ AND SIR F. GORGES, TO THE EARL OF ESSEX.

MAY YT PLEASE YOUR GOOD LO^p: We are to advertife yo^r LO^p: thus much at this present, First that whereas before we were jelious of Certeyn shippes that lay of of Famouthe
and

⁵⁴⁹ Lord Thomas Howard, created Earl of Suffolk in 1603. He obtained considerable influence at court by his services in discovering the Gunpowder Plot, and was made Chancellor at Cambridge in 1613, and the following year Lord High Treasurer. He died May 28th, 1626.

⁵⁵⁰ Charles Blount, sixth Lord Mountjoy and Earl of Devonshire, was one of the commanders in the fleet which defeated the Spanish Armada. He was a man of popular qualities, a foldier and scholar; but like so many who basked

in the sunshine of power, of impure moral life. For years he lived openly with Penelope, sister of the Earl of Essex, who had abandoned her husband, the Earl of Warwick, in order to live with him. To this woman, by whom he reared a family of children, he was married a year before his death by William Laud, his chaplain, afterwards the famous Archbishop. He died in 1606.

⁵⁵¹ Sir Walter Raleigh had just returned from the expedition against Spain, already spoken of in a previous note, and his enemies were actively engaged

and the Lizard⁵⁵² we are now better informed that they were ether English men, Scotts or Flemings as may appeare, unto yo^r Lo:^p by the inclosed. Farther if there were any remaynder of the Spanish Fleete hovering uppon owre Coast we are of opinion that this last tempestiouse night hath disperfed them.

We are besides to lett yo^r Lo:^p know that the Admiral Vice Admiral and the rest of the Flemish Squadron are gonn for the low Cuntries wth out owre privitie. Lastly, (no apprehensions or feares that have any greate foundation remaying here amongst us) we entreate yo^r Lo:^p to use all Convenient hast for owre deliverie from this place and to signifye unto us her M^{ties} pleasure what she will have donn wth her shipp. of w^{ch} theare wilbe little necessitie here and (in owre opinions) it is tyme for them to be in theare winter harbor for the repaying of their destresses:

So attending from yo^r Lo:^p a dispatch Concerning these poynts and all other particularities w^{ch} yo^r Lo:^p shall thinck needfull we humbly take owre leaves.

Yo^r Lo:^{ps} humbly to be Commaunded /

T. HOWARD.

C. MOUNTJOYE.

W. RALEGH.

FARD: GORGES.

From PLIMOUTHE this first of November 1597.

It

engaged in fomenting trouble between him and Essex, to whom this joint letter is addressed. The details, however, of this accomplished soldier, statesman, and scholar's life are familiar to all. Sir Walter called Cecil's attention to this joint letter in a private note written from

Plymouth, and said, "we are here made madd with intricate affaires and want of means."

⁵⁵² The Lizard is a prominent headland on the Cornish coast, and the most southerly point of England.

It may please yo^r Lo:^p to be particularly putt in minde of the Prizes of the land fouldiers of the Spanish prifoners.

We are difpatching wth all haft . 2 . or 3 Pinnaffes toward the Coaft of Spayne to lern what is become of the Spanish Fleete. We heare nothing of S^t Andrew.

Add. For her Maties efpetiall affayres. To the right honorable owre verie good Lord the Earle of Effex Lord General of her M^{ties} Armie and Fleete haft for lyfe . for lyfe haft . haft for lyfe.⁵⁵³ T. Howard. C. Mountjoye. At Plimouth the first of November 11 of the clock in the forenoone. Endorfed : 1 November 1597 at Plymmouth L. Thom. Howard L. Mountjoy. S^r W. Raleighe. S^r Fer. Gorge. Advertifments from fea to y^e E. of Effex. 1 p.
[Postmasters' Receipts.]

Ashburton have a nore* upon — of the clocke in the after nowne. Exeter paste 10 in the night. Receved at Hunyton ** one after mydenight the second of Novembere. [torn] ockerne after 10 morning halfe anoer — Receved Sherborne halfe a nour past 9 of the cloke in the morninge. R at Andever the second of November at fix a clock at nighte. Bassingstock at 9 clock [torn off].

* Half an hour. ** Honiton.

(Cecil Papers 56/111.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE EARL OF ESSEX.

MOSTE HO: Your Lo: have underftoode from the Lls: what they have don — whereby you may finde them doubtfull what to doe, for they are of an opinyon that the ftayeinge of the fhippes heere is to fmale purpofe or none att all,
they

⁵⁵³ These despatches were sent by special messengers who had to ride from Plymouth to London with all possible speed. If they excelled in making quick time they were rewarded; hence these messengers were emulous of distinc-

tion. Some of the directions written on despatches of this age are forcible, as, "*Haste! Haste! Poste Haste! Ryde villin Ryde! ffor yor lyfe, ffor yor lyfe, ffor yor lyfe!*"

they bringe but few weake and unfurnished of all thinges, and to goe from hence they dare not wth out order from your Lo^s : , w^{ch} beinge considered yt can not be unnecessary they weare appoynted to goe to the place where yt shalbe thoughte fitt they shalbe repayred, for to lye heere unto noe purpose is but expence of chardge and losse of tyme ; and doubtlesse in my opinyon (under yo^r lo: Correcc̃on, you shall heere the Spanyardes will repayer themselves before they put unto our coaste agayne the w^{ch} will requier three weekes after theyre retorne to theyre harbors, in the meane tyme your Lo: may take order for the establisheinge of thinges fitt for defence, takinge the advantage of the tyme, and oportunitye for makinge of new provition :

Yt hath byn in councell lagely discourfed on of the advantage our shippes have over theyres, and yt was concluded by the twoe seamen, they weare as likely to beate us as we them, when we weare in our beste trymes, the w^{ch} beinge considered yt wilbe founde necessary not to much to truste to that annyciente opynyon of the Qucenes shippes, but to make necessary preparaçons for defence by lande :

For these partes as far as I have authoryty, I will promise the observaunce of yo^r lls: direc̃cons, and yf there be comission graunted me that I be not subiecte unto other mens wills whoe hath neyther judgm^t nor experyence, yf I fayle in discharginge the duty and office of a fouldier, I will ranfome the penalty wth the losse of my lyfe :

For the presente untill more proviçons of lodginges be made in the Islande I will take order (yf the oulde companyes be to staye heere) that they be lodged in Plymoth
and

and Stonehouse,⁵⁵⁴ from whence they shall every nyghte com to make garde by single companyes, wher yt shalbe thoughte moſte fitt:

The tropes of the countrye I diſcharged ymediatly upon the landinge of the low countrye men:

As for munycon and artillery I ſhall not neede to remember yo^r lo: any more how neceſſary yt is this place ſhoulde be thorowghly furniſhed, but doe refer yt unto yo^r Lo: wiſdome: yt was wiſhed upon receipte of yo^r lo: that ſome of theſe ſhippes mighte rune of the Coaſte, yf peradventure thoſe that ridd under S^t Ellens ſhoulde wth an Eſterly winde put of before the S^t Andrew,⁵⁵⁵ ſhould recover them, but yt is not don for that yt was not comaunded: ſoe wth remembrance of my humble duty, I take my leave of your lo: From the Forte by Plymoth: this 6th of November 1597.

Your Lor^s humbly at Cummaund duringe liſſe/

FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the right ho: my moſte aſſured good Lo: the Earle of Effexe generall of her mat^{ies} forces: give theſe: End: 6 Novembr. 1597 S^r Ferdinando Gorge to my Lo: of Effex. 1 1-4 pp.

(State Papers, Domeſtic Correſpondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXV. No. 41.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO: I haue written unto theyre Ll: ſuch newes as hath come unto me, what lyklyhoode of truth yt hath I leaue unto your Ho: graue Wiſdom and better knowledge,
but

⁵⁵⁴ Stonehouse is a ſuburb of Plymouth between it and Devonport.

⁵⁵⁵ The *Saint Andrew* was one of the great Spaniſh ſhips taken in the recent expedition, and, as Raleigh wrote to Cecil, in “forſibell weather — ſpent her mayntopmaſte.”

but howsoever yt is not (in my pore opynyon) amyffe to doubte as much, neyther doth yt carry any greate unlikly-hoode; for yet there doth not goe any reporte of other proviçons or settled course taken in moſte of theſe places for the avoydinge of conſewçons and diſcontentes, the w^{ch} (under your Ho: corrección be yt ſpoken) is geñally a thinge much muttered att, and by ſome that doth know and greve to thinke what reſiſtaunce will be made wth a conſewfed multitude unexperyenced, wthout eyther Capⁿ. or officer or any other meanes belonginge unto an army, that ſhould make hedd agaynſte an invadinge enemy, wth an army practiced, and diſciplined, as alſoe Royally provided of all thinges that can be ymaged to be fitt for ſuch an attempte: I leaue the whole to be conſidered of by your Ho:, and doe humbly craue pardon for my bouldnes, gevinge moſte humble thanks for Yo^r honorable care and favor in procuringe my warrante for my Checkes: and reſtinge ever more to be diſpoſed of att:

Your Ho: Coñmaunde: FARD: GORGES.

From the forte the 5th of December 1597.

End: To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cycill knight principall Secretary to her highnes. S^r Ferdinando Gorge to y^e Lords. 1597. 5 Decem. S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXV. No. 42.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

I THOUGHTE yt my duty to giue your Ll: notice of my retorne from famouth: but doe leaue the reportes of the particulers of our opynyons accordinge unto your Ll: directions

reccōns unto S^r Nickas Parker⁵⁵⁶ his retorne the w^{ch} wilbe wth as much speede as may be :

Heere is a reporte by those that cometh from the South wardes that there is, an Imbargo geñally thorow Spayne, and all the marryners that they can gett they sende to farould : & the Groyne : and farther yt is thought they will presently be in a readynes to put out agayne unto the Sea, for the Adelantado (as they say) beinge ympatiente of his misfortune doth make all the haste that he can possible, by all the meanes he is able ; and resolues to put out althoughe he leaue some of his greate shippes behinde, the w^{ch} weare foe weather beaten as they can not convenyently be foe fodenly repayred ;

farther : that yt is thoughte that their purpose is, that the army that doth come out of Spayne shall descende upon some of these westerne partes, but where yt is not knowne, And that they make accompte the Cardinall⁵⁵⁷ will be able to sett a shoare in the Easte : and moreover that they are Afured of some freendes in the North, the w^{ch} they know will put one armes for theyre ayde ; When these twoe armys are knowne to be a shoare : And as for Irelande they are affured of, for they say when all this hurly Burlye shalbe
in

⁵⁵⁶ Sir Nicholas Parker was the son of Thomas Parker, Esq., of Ratton in Suffex. He was married three times : first to Jane, daughter of Sir William Courtney, of Devonshire ; secondly, to Elizabeth, daughter of John Baker, Esq. ; and thirdly, to Catherine, daughter of Sir John Temple, Baronet. He was a man of great energy, and conspicuous in the military affairs of the reigns of Elizabeth and James. He was

engaged in the wars on the continent with Gorges, and was knighted for gallant conduct while in the Netherlands, by Lord Willoughby, in 1598. He died March 9th, 1619, leaving a numerous family.

⁵⁵⁷ Albert, Cardinal Archduke of Austria, son-in-law of Philip II. of Spain, by whose will he became sovereign of the Netherlands. He died in 1633.

in Inlande, we can sende noe supplies thether and for those that are there, the Erle wilbe able to torne them oute at his pleafuer, thus your Ll: see, they haue made theyre reckoninge before theyre ofte; What lyklyhoode or taste of truth this hath I leaue unto yo^r Ll: better knowledges and graue Wisdomes: But under your Ll: corec^tions I thinke yt my duty to say thus much (as knowinge what I saye) yf God had not prevented them this laste tyme, they woulde wthoute resistaunce haue performed theyre designem^t upon these partes; for the reste I can say nothinge; what the wantes are I refer unto the reporte of S^r Walter Rawleighe whoe hath a note thereof under my hande accordinge unto your Ll: pleafuers in that behaulfe:

The Cap.^s that are heere hath entreated me agayne to remember your Ll: of them that some certeyne course may be taken for the pay of theyre Weekly Sendings, as alsoe for apparrell for their souldiers, whoe are excedinge pore, and likewise a supply of armes, cheefly in that I doe presently entende, (yf yt shall stande wth your Ll: likinges) to call them unto duty, although yt can yll be before some provi^cions be made for fieringes and lodgings, and other necessaryes; For all w^{ch} I humbly pray your Ll: order for; for the Cap^s hath playnely tould me, that they thinke yt a very harde course that men shoulde be comaunded to duty before theyre provi^cions be made; What your Ll: pleafuers is in this behaulfe I desier to know att your Ll: beste lea^fuers: And foe wth remembraunce of my humble dutye I humbly take my leaue from the forte by Plymoth this 5th of december 1597./

Your Ll: humbly att comaunde / FARD: GORGES.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXV. No. 44.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO: it may apere by the reporte of Cap: Legate that ther is liklihod that the Spanerde do intende to pute this winter unto the sea agayne for other wayse they oulde drawe theyer shipes in to fareull, being a fafer and a esior harbor then the Groyne be sides theye oulde disembarke theyer Land foulderes to sweten theyer shipes and refreshe the men if they wer refoulfed of the tim they ould stay there agayne they oulde not make such haste for providing themselffes wth botes, for der⁵⁵⁸ the generall imbergo of all shipinge to furnish them sellfes wth marenors and the hastning of all provisions and sendinge of it the ther all the which is confirmed by the report of Allfonso deshefa a portugall that he hath brought wth him when if it shall plese your ho: may be sente upe./

It semeth the gent man hath taken grete paynes in this jerney for he hath tyrde out his company as well as his sellfe and now to make them amenes he hath disbursed unto them theyre litle payes, in hope for so I asheured him he shoulde by your ho: menes reseve it agayn at london wth good fatesfaxion for his honest and paynfull indefor wher for I be sech you to that Consfederation may be had for the in coreging of him or other upon the like ocafiones and you shall find it both profitabl for her Majesty and to for your sellfe — Euen so I humbly take my leaue from the forte By Plimouth this 7th of defember.

Your lo: humbly at Comaund / FARD: GORGES.

End: To the righte ho: S^r Roberte Cycyll knighte principall secretary to her highnes: December: 1597. S. Fardinando Gorges to my M^r concerninge the reporte of Capt: Legate.

⁵⁵⁸ That is, farther.

(State

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXV. No. 45.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

I HAUE sente your Ho: herewth my drafte of falmouth, and I besech you to beare wth the rudnes of yt, It is as neere as I can remember the trew manno^r and scituaçon of the place, for the better direçcon of your Ho: understandinge of yt, I haue signified the place by letters, as yt may apeere, and written my reasons of them, And in the other greater plott, I haue sett downe the manno^r of the fortificaçon, & the place (in my opynion) where yt should stande, and upon what consideraçon: /

To fortifie an other place (savinge S^t Maufe Castle ⁵⁵⁹) is to noe purpose, for those twoe beinge made stronge and of receipte, fitt to conteyne the power of the countrie, and furnished wth those proviçons, necessary for such places, the harbor wilbe sufficiently defended from the enmyes possession Yt is now the [most] dangerous place that ever I saw, and the worste provided for (: Yf the enmye shoulde descende there before these defences be made; I proteste I doe not see (and yet I doe assuer my sealse I doe understande somthinge) how wthout greate difficulty they wilbe gotten out agayne: Yf yt shall please your Ho: to comaunde me any thinge els, You shall ever finde me:

Your Ho: most humbly att comaunde: /

FARD: GORGES.

From the forte this 8th of December 1597:

End: To the right ho: S^t Roberte Cycyll knight principall secretary to her highnes. 8 Dec: 1597. S^t Ferdinando Gorge to my M^t Concerning the plott of falmouth.

(State

⁵⁵⁹ This is one of the old fortresses harbor of Falmouth on the Cornish erected to defend the entrance to the coast.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXV. No. 55.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

MAY Y^T PLEASE YOURE HO: Heere ys lately arived a fervante of Anthony Goddardes a merchaunte of this towne, whoe was taken in a smale barke of his mast^{rs} that wente out of this harbor wth the fleete, att my lo: of Effexe firste settinge forth; and was (in the presence of the Delantado) racked, to enforc him to confesse, what the purpose of the fleete was, whoe beinge able to Say nothings of theyre intente, was examyned of the estate of this place, and what number of men heere weare leaste in garde, what the p^pose of this examynaçon was I leaue to yo^r. Ho: wisedomes to be considered of, Farther yt was given out, that they stayerd to heere what was become of oure fleete, and as soone as they shoulde haue harde, that they weare landed in any place, that then they would put for Inglande:

Att his beinge att Lyfborne, there departed for to goe for faroule 3000: of Italians, and yt was then expected that aboute this tyme the whoale fleete woulde be readye to put to Sea agayne:

There is genially greate scarcetie and wante of Victualls, by reason that all that can be gotten is taken for the supplye of the Army. But they expecte to be furnished wth all manner of necessaryes, by meanes of c^teyne m^{ch}chauntes of Milborough:

Moreover the speech was there amonge the comon people that the delantado was arived in this harbor, and had taken and killed all, and weare in peaceable possession of all, and that the founde many freendes in these partes;

The

The wordes that the delantado used unto the reporter hereof, was, that the fier was but now kindled, and the warres but now begon betwene Englande and Spayne: In whose presence (att the same tyme) was Eleott a chiefe counncello^r as yt seemeth, and the cause (as he sayeth) that these men weare racked.

I woulde gladly know theyre lo^s pleafuers in aunfwere of my laste, as likewise for furnishinge of the place wth such proviçons as are necessary for the enemy can not haue a fitter opportunitie, nor a fayrer winde then they haue had of late, nether ys yt like all this will proue nothinge wherefore (under your Ho: corec̃con) in my pore opynion yt weare fitt somthinge weare don, that the people mighte be satisfied, these greate affayres are not neglected: they would thereby receaue the better contente and be the more forewarde in doinge theyre duties, and yt can not be unsafe that thinges be settled in an orderly course, and proviçon in a readynes to prevente the worste: Thus much I say in dischardge of my conscience and duty, because I know there is notice taken, of the backwardnes and slacknes of our naçon; Our enemyes thereby receavinge Comforte, for that they are perswaded, our naçon understandeth not what belongeth unto these affayres, nether judgmente to provide to prevente theyre purposes, the w^{ch} pswaçons are greate incoragemente unto them and the wante of necessary proviçons, will prove a greate discomforte unto us when tyme cometh:

I haue caused the spanyarde to be sente unto Tremton Castle in Cornwall⁵⁶⁰ and haue taken order accordinge unto

⁵⁶⁰ Trematon Castle is one of the still in an excellent state of preservation. most interesting ruins in Cornwall, being It was built before the Conquest and belonged

unto theyr ll: pleasuer in that behaulfe, for theyre maynentence, wth affuraunce that by theyre ll: nexte, there wilbe order for satisfaçcon for what hath ben alreadye layde out, or otherwise yf paym^t, be not made, they wilbe retorned from thence agayne, and yt weare better that they weare hanged, then that they should ronne upp and downe the Country as they haue don; Alsoe I desier to know theyre ll: pleasuer conñinge such Portingalls and spanishe prisoners as are belonginge unto pore men that haue brought them yn, by way of reprisall for that the chardge wilbe greate for to keepe them heere any longe tyme, nether will they doe yt, unlesse some order com from theyre Ll: to enforce them thereunto: And soe humbly cravinge pardon for my bouldnes, wth harty prayers for your Ho: I take my leaue

Your Ho: humbly to be comaunded: /

FARD: GORGES.

from the forte this 15th of December, 1597.

End: To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cecyll knighte principall secretary to her highnes/ 15. December 1597. S^r Fardinando Gorges to my M^r/ Spanishe Aduifes./

(Cecil Papers 57/115.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

MAY YT PLEASE YOUR HO: I haue sent herewth such letters as I underfande to be of mosfe ymporte, that weare writen by one of the spanishe prisoners to have byn prively conveyed

belonged to the ancient Dukes of Cornwall. It is about four miles from Plymouth, in the little town of Saltash, and

at the time when Sir Ferdinando wrote, of considerable importance as a place of defence.

conveyed into Spayne, him seale for the tyme I have fevered from the reste, and examyned him upon the particulers of his letters, whose excuse is that he doth seeke his libertie :

there was twelve of them that upon thursfday nighte laste brake prison out of Tremerton Castle (beinge thereunto advised by one Crosse one of the keepers men) and wente aborde a smale pinace that lay att Saltashe,⁵⁶¹ and readie victualed to sett sayle for the Coaste of Spayne, but they beinge repulsed by certeyne of the company that were aboarde, put themsealves a shoare agayne and rann into the contrie, whoe are all recovered agayne, and the kepers man comitted to the gaolle :

heere is not yet any order harde of neyther of the pay nor apparell of the fouldiers, the w^{ch} hath made them verie discontente, but by meanes of M^r Stallendge there hath byn shifte made for theyre weekly lendinges unto this presente exceptinge one weeke w^{ch} resteth due unto them ; Referringe the confideracon hereof to yo^r Ho: wisdom ; I humbly take my leave : From the Forte by Plymoth this 26th of December 1597.

Your Ho: humbly att comaunde /

FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cicill knighte principall secretary to her highnes. End: 26 Dec 1597. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my M^r 12 Spaniards brake prison out of Tremerton Castle, and apprehended againe. 1 p.

(Cecil

⁵⁶¹ Saltash is a small town on the west bank of the river Tamar, about three miles northwest of Devonport.

(Cecil Papers 62/37.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT Ho^r: The nefefetey of this por mans Eftate duth requier I shoulde recomende the confiderafion of yt unto your ho^r, the rather for that yt was promifed (upon the refelufion of his difmefment) he shoulde be other waife imployde, and heringe of this expedition into Erland I am boulde to folifete your ho^r: in his behallfe for on of the Cumpanyes, the which if by your ho^s mens he may optayne he fhall be bound, as allfo my fellfe, to refte ever mor thankefull for fo grete a benefete unto him: I fhall defier be for my departur in to the contrey to haue fome conferanfe in difcharge of my dupty wth your ho^r, at fuche time as yte fhall plefe you to thinke your fellfe at befte Leyfour, in the men time I humbly take my Leve refteinge humbly at

Your ho^{rs} cumand / FARD: GORGES.

Holograph. Add. To the Right ho^r S^r Robert Ceffell Kn: prinsepall Secretary unto hur Mageft geve thes. End: 1598 9 Iuly S^r Fer: Gorges to my M^r 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 177/80.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO: by your ho: lafte yt is your pleafuer I fhould fupplie the fixe companyes of Cornewall wth armes, the w^{ch} I am moſte willinge and readie to accomplifh, yf they fhall ftande in wante of any, But I perceave by the Cap^{ns}: themfealves, that they have compounded wth the Countrie for twentie poundes a peece to fupplie their owne defectes;
But

But for the twoe companyes I laſte wrote of, you ſhall finde them verie defective, both of men and armes; for the ſupply whereof there ſhall not neede to be more unto me then a word from yo^r ho: But yf there be any thinge to be taken from the Countrie I beſech you that there may be good warrant, given for my diſcharge, for by this enclosed you ſhall perceave whether there be cauſe yee or noe, that I ſhould deſier yt: Before my willinge indevors weare diſcountenned I could wth faſtie have don what had byn fitt, both unto the eaſe of yo^r ho^{rs}: and profitt of her Ma^{tie}: Yet in diſcharge of my love and dutie unto yo^r ſealfe, I thinke yt not amysſe by this to advertize you, that yt weare good there weare ſome other courſe taken, then I ſee any yt, for the accompliſhing of yo^r expecta^{ti}ons, or yo^u ſhall heere there wilbe both confuſion and greate defectes; Of this I ſhall neede write noe more, but leave the conſideration thereof to yo^r wiſdom, and comende my ſealfe to be diſpoſed of att:

Yo^r ho: comaunde / FARD: GORGES.

From the Forte by PLYMOTH this 14th of Auguſte 1598.

Add: To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cycill knight principall ſecretarie to her highnes. End: 14 Auguſt 1598. S^r Fardinando Gorges to my M^r. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 64/3.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

MAY YT PLEASE YOUR HO: now that your dire^{cti}ons are accompliſhed, as far forth I proteſte (whatſomever you myght have reported unto you) as hath lyen in my power, and for the furtheraunce thereof I have don many thinges
wthout

wthout warrante, the w^{ch} yf I be called in question for, I hope I shall receave your ho: favor: But I most humbly pray that hereafter I be not cowpled wth twoe such other Comysfioners as was our Mayo^r and Collonell: For, for the Collonell I never saw foe poore a gent, I was forced before they wente aborde to be both Collonell, Lyvetennte Collonell, Sarjaunt Major and Comysfarye and all; But notwth-standinge (this yll helpe) they weare all ymbarqued in fower howers after we began, and the shipes out into the founde, foe as this nyght they fett sayle aboute 12: of the Clocke, by the next yo^r ho: shall receave a particuler of theire certeyne nomber att theire ymbarquinge, and what they have byn furnyshed wth all by me: untill when I humbly take my leave: From the Forte by Plymoth this 9th of September 1598:

Yo^r ho: humbly att Comaunde / FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cycyll Knight principall secretary to her highnes: End: 1598. 9 Sept. S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 64/23.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

S^r yt appereth by yo^r ho^{rs}: lēre dated the 13th of September directed to the Mayo^r my sealf and others, that you expecte there should be an accoumpte given, of a lēre written from theire Ll: of the 22th: of Auguste conteyninge directions whether the men weare to goe: the w^{ch} lēre as yt seemeth yo^u haue byn informed should be reaceved by me, and by me concealed from the knowledge of the reste. In our geñall

geñall Lēre wee did all deny the receipte of any such, and for my owne parte (god is my rightfull judge) neyther I nor any to my knowledge receaved that lēre whereof there came a copie signed under yo^r ho^{rs} hande: But one of the 23th I acknowledge to haue receaved directed only unto my seaffe, in w^{ch} weare inclosed her Ma^{ties}: lēres and your Lls: to my Lo: of bathe ⁵⁶² for the levyeing of men and armes for the supplye of the Companyes, and in them noe mention of any former lērs to any such efecte: This lēre of the 23th directed as I faide was delyvered att the Forte eyther the 25th: or 26th: att 12: of the Clocke at nyghte, and my seaffe not then retorned from my Lo: of Bathes, whoe had sente for me to be wth him the 22th: But I harde by Capⁿ: Blany that there should have byn lers sente by him, and that he came away before he receaved them, soe as I conjectuer they weare Carried to his lodginge and yt may be remayne there still: For my owne parte I have inquired of the Postm^r, whoe can acknowledge the receipte of that one Packett aboute that tyme, w^{ch} I confesse to have come unto my handes beringe date the 23th: Neyther doe I know whie yt should be ymagined whie I should have Receaved thother or upon what reason yt should be conjectured I should conceale him: The Mayo^r beinge firste in the direccon unto whome they alwayes firste come in the like case: Nexte my seaffe was att that instante out of the Towne. Agayne I hope I never shewed my seaffe to have soe little witt as to conceale a matter of that ymporte, espetially knowinge the danger of yt: Farther
I

⁵⁶² William Bouchier, fifth Baron whose friend he was. He died July and third Earl of Bath. He served in 12th, 1623.
the Netherlands with Sir Ferdinando,

I trust I have not byn noted to have byn foe negligent in any thinge that concerneth her Ma^{ts} service: Lastly can yt be ymagined that for noe comoditie to my sealf, or pleafuer to my freendes I should willingly give such an advantage agaynste me: But my hope is that at what tyme yo^r ho^r: shall have founde out the truth you wilbe pleased to hould a better opynion of me. In the meane tyme I humbly besech yo^r ho^r: to accepte this for my Resolute aunfwere yt I never harde of any such lēre untill I receaved the Copie signed under yo^r ho^{rs}: handes: Yf this be not true I renounce my salvation: And foe my bounden dutie remembred I humbly take my leave: Written from the Forte by Plymoth this 16th of September 1598.

Yo^r ho^{rs}: att Comaunde / FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cecyll knight principall secretary to her highnes: End: 1598. 16 Sept. S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r. Aunfwere to yo^r Ho^{rs} lre of the 13th concerning the Packett messing. 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 177/122.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE EARL OF ESSEX.

MAY YT PLESSE YOUR LO. heyer is this day arived on John Parkinges of Stonhous, that was on of thos latly taken by the Spanerd wherin Fasey was pylate. he delifered me this inclosed to be sente to your lo. he reportth that at the Groyn theyr ar 14 of the Kinges shipes and in the Toun and Contrey theyer aboutes 4000 foulderes. theyer ar newe byllt 30 fayll of shipes the which ar all redey, and ten of them apoynted to go in this flete which they say is to go into Erland wth 13000 foulderes that at Bayoun and at Veyuna

Veyuna duth lay the gretes nomber of shipes that er apoynted for this serfes, at S^t Anderes theyr leyeth .6. galles redy all ways but they ar for the gard of the cost as yt is fayd.

The young Kinge⁵⁶³ hath apoynted to be crowned in Liffborn. other then this he can not reporte safe when he was ferste taken he was Examined by dun dego⁵⁶⁴ what flete theyer was makinge redey in Ingland what shipes the Quene hade at Plimouth what foulderer theyer war what strenketh the plase was of and many otheyr questiones unto the lyke effecte the intent wherof I refer unto your Lo. confideration.

Heyer is a penes⁵⁶⁵ of myn that hellpet to cary the fouldiers in to Erland retorned by the which I reseved this lettor heyerin closed all so: but to heyer hou myfarably all thinges duth stand theyer ould greve the hart of any honeste man amounste otheyrs theys inconvenensys ar particolorly noted: ferst the Counsell amonste them sellfes devided and distratted the foulderer and cap: myfrably pore and Extremly discouraged, the Lls. and comality⁵⁶⁶ of the contrey all ether gon unto the enemy or upon termes of goyinge. What god will have shall be, and so my bounden deuty unto your L. remembred I humbly take my leve beinge for ever

Your L. at comand / FARD: GORGES.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r and my moste aproved good L. the Errell of Effexx Errell marshall⁵⁶⁷ of Ingland geve theys. dated at Plimouth the 21 of October. End: S^r Ferd Gorge. 1 p.

(Cecil

⁵⁶³ Philip III.

⁵⁶⁴ Don Diego de Sotamayor, admiral of the Spanish fleet.

⁵⁶⁵ Pinnace.

⁵⁶⁶ Commonalty.

⁵⁶⁷ The Earl Marshal was the eighth
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great State officer. His duty was to marshal and order great ceremonials, to direct proclamations, and to take cognizance of matters relating to honors, arms, and pedigrees. He was the head officer in the Court upon chivalry, and hence

(Cecil Papers 199/57-8.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE EARL OF ESSEX.

MAY Y^T PLEASE YO^R LO: I ame forie to fee that for want of good counsell and providente care in convenyente tyme the cheefe pillar of our state is brought unto that exegencie that there is a necessitie to ingage the whole for the preservaçon thereof: And although I know right well your Lo: doth understande of what cōsequeunce yt is that yo^u are to undertake: yet I can not (havige had experience of your Lo: favorable acceptance) but put you in remembrance of some thinges that will not be amyffe for your Lo: to thinke upon. For you are now to have in your power the disposinge of the hope and expectaçon of your nation, the lyfe and welfare of your dreade soveraigne and to ingage the fortune of your seaffe and your freendes and all in a moſte dangerous tyme in a rewened state and myſerable country upon a ſtronge enemy (thinges ſtandinge as att this tyme yt doth wth us) by natuer and longe practize valyent and experte noe ſtranger unto us nor unacquaynted wth the manner of our proceedinges, nor deſtetute of daylye intellygence of our purpoſes, himſeaffe of a ripe knowledg and judgm^t of what he hath undertaken and of a proude ſpirite his peoples hartes in generall full of contempte and malyce unto our nation of late incoraged and made inſolente by many victories and over-throwes

hence was one of the moſt conſpicuous officers in the realm. Eſſex was created by Elizabeth Earl Marſhal in 1597, the office having become vacant by the death of the Earl of Shrewſbury. His appointment, which gave him precedence over older and abler men, cauſed many heart-burnings.

throwes given: And thereby they have gotten experiens and the use of their armes as I have saide, they have furnished themselves wth all things necessary for the prosecuting of such a warr, the hopes alsoe and assurance he hath of supplies and releife from foreine partes yf he shall nede them: Their bodies are alsoe enured unto all hardnes, their number farr exceedinge what I have hetherunto harde spoken of to be opposed agaynst him; And generally (howsoever some may seeme to carrye themselves) they joyne in one to disburden themselves of a forreigne govern^t, as they should yt, All this your Lo: ys to oppose in some sorte by the contrarye: For your old souldiers that you shall find there are discouraged and made Cowardes by divers overthrowes received, and generally all for the moste parte discomforted for wante of necessary meanes and dew respecte in case of their extremitye, the stores are disfurnished the Country holie possessed by thenemye, the state divided, and one opposed agaynst thother, your new levies unpractized in the use of their armes, unacquaynted wth the warres and unable longe to continew their health in respecte of the change of the countrie and their dyet: your Capteynes not experienced in the Nature of those services. Farther your enemies heere opposinge themselves to detracte both meanes and reputacon from you all that they are able, Soe as yf you provide not to prevente all that may ensue of the inconvenyences you shall but lose your selfe your freendes and your country These I have not spoken as diswadinge or dislikinge that yo^r Lo: should undertake the recoveringe agayne by yo^r vertue what others hath losse thorow their folies: But only in discharge of my love and dutie, to
thende

thende that yo^r Lo: may providently forefee and prevente the inconvenyences that are apparante unto the world both for the good of yo^r Country and preservacon of your owne honor: And for my owne parte how I am affected to make one of this enterprize may easilie be ymagined, Consideringe first yt is my profession by the w^{ch} meanes I lyve, nexte the reason considered I have to loath the manner of my lyvinge heere, where thorow cause of discontente and opynion of wronges receaved I hould my sealse unsatisfied, agayne those whome I esteeme to be my most dereste and hono^{rab}le freendes are cheefly interested in yt, Lastly my loue unto my Countreye and dutifull service unto her sacred Ma^{tie} doth comaunde me thereunto, And therefore wthout yfes or andes I am resolved to be one, and such a one as yo^r Lo: shall thinke me worthie unto, whome sence I have given power to dispose of my lyfe: I doe wholly referr the care of my reputation: Even soe wth humble respeacte of my bounden dutie I take my leave cravage pardon of your Lo: for my bouldnes and remayninge for ever

Your Lo: humbly to be comaunded /

FARD: GORGES.

From the fort by PL: this 4th of December 1598.

I moust humbly in trete your lo: out of the deutey and offes of a frend, and my knoulege and understandinge of my respete unto your lo: to laye aparte all opinion of mysse confayte of my deyer frend S^r Coneres Cliford,⁵⁶⁸ for I do know

⁵⁶⁸ Sir Coniers Clifford was descended land. He was knighted by Essex for from one of the younger branches of the gallant services before Rouen in 1591, family known as the Dukes of Cumber- at the same time that Sir Ferdinando Gorges

know in my soule and consheuse he cannot leve that you
cane mor frely dispoesse of then you may do of him and
theyer for that yt may apeyer I have dischaged the parte of a
nonest man I bech⁵⁶⁹ you to exsept of me who will ingage
my sellse and repetaion unto your lo for the performanse by
him of as moch as I now proteste for him and in his be-
hallse, and that yt will plesse your Lo to confyder by what
menes you may beste manyfeste unto the woredl your fafor-
able exsepttans and alouanse of this my humble sute if not
theyer canne fall nothings I proteste mor greves nor beter⁵⁷⁰
unto me wherfor agayn I beche your Lo in his behallse and
so do leve yt unto yor nobell hart.

and that this may be to yor Lo Expetaion I subscrybe
my nam to see acompleshed or not to be

FARD: GORGES.

Letter signed: the postscript holograph. Add: To the right ho: my singuler good
Lo: the Earle of Effex Earle Marshall of Englande. End: S^r Ferd. Gorge
4 Dec. 98 at Plymouth. 3 pp.

(Cecil Papers 60/21.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

MAY YT PLEASE YOUR HO^R: My shippes unexpected
retorne from the South wardes foe soone, partly by reason
of the evellnes of her beere, and some other her provitions,
as alsoe an encounter she mett wthall of the Rocke,⁵⁷¹ in
the

Gorges received that honor. He com-
manded the *Dreadnaught* in the Cadiz
Expedition, where he added to his rep-
utation for skill and bravery by his
achievements on that occasion. He
was slain in Ireland in 1599.

⁵⁶⁹ Beseech.

⁵⁷⁰ Grievous nor bitter.

⁵⁷¹ The Rock of Lisbon, or *Cabo da Roca*, on the west coast of Portugal.

the w^{ch} she lost many of her men, is an occation that I am enforced att this presente humblye to crave yo^r ho: favo^r to be a meanes that I may have leave to com up for some smale tyme for the dispach of some busines, that I have w^{ch} standeth me very much upon; It shall not be needful, to trouble yo^r ho: wth the knowledge how greate my hinderance hath byn by this mysfortune, their encounter was wth a shipp of 560: tonnes that had served the kinge these fower yeres and now was thereof discharged, whoe had lefte her Ordnance att the Groyne reservinge only some few Peeces for her defence to bringe her to S^t Lukes, where shee was to be made readie to goe (as themsealves doe reporte) wth Peter Sebeaes⁵⁷² and other for S^t John de Portereko,⁵⁷³ shee had in her some 60: smale shott, whoe by reason of the greatenes of her lyeinge soe much above myne, weare soe well assured of themsealves as they beate backe my men wth the losse of seven of them upon theyre firste entrie, and made them glad to take theyre shipp agayne, after w^{ch} the marriners not accustomed to such encownters could not by any meanes be drauen to enter her afresh, doubtinge that shee had byn better provided then in truth she was, the Capⁿ: feinge that was enforced to lay his sides unto hers and soe battered her, untill att the laste she was readie to sinke the w^{ch} thenemye perceavinge, called for mercie, and soe after thexpence of 164 shott of the demye Culveringe and sacre they tooke her sett all the Spaniardes
one

⁵⁷² Peter Sebuers (spelled by Raleigh Cebures) was one of the admirals of Spain, and commanded one of the squadrons which opposed Raleigh in 1597.

⁵⁷³ San Juan de Porto Rico, a noted rendezvous for the Spanish ships in the West Indies.

one the shoare that weare leaſte alive, and beinge not able to bringe away the ſhipp, burnt her before theire faces: wth what judgment and honeſtie the Capⁿ: behaued himſelfe in this encounter I deſier others ſhould rather reporte then my ſelfe, becauſe he is foe neere of kinne unto me, as yt may be thought I ſpeake partiallie in his commendaçons but will refer yt unto yo^r ho: cenſuer, and in his behaulfe craue yo^r ho: favo^r unto him, and that yt will pleaſe you to take notice of him foe farre forth, as to accepte of him unto yo^r protection, And foe referringe the reſte unto his owne reporte: I humblye take my leave: From the Forte by Plymoth this 5th: of March 1598.

Yo^r Ho^{rs} humblie att Comaunde /

FARD: GORGES.

Add. To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cecyll knight principall Secretarie to her highnes: End: 5 March 98 S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my M^r deſires leave to come up. 1 p.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXI. No. 133.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR WALTER RALEGH.

S^r Acordinge to my promiſſe; you muſte underſtande that heeare is returned Capten Vennarde frome Breſt who hath brought under the governors hande the particular of the Spaniardes p^{er}operation: w^{ch} is that the are in a Redines to ſet ſeaſle as to deay beinge the Xth of Auguſt wth them 60 galles 60 gret ſhipes and wth 60 ſmall ſhipes and in them 3000 ſoldiers exſidyng Royally furnyſhed wth all maner of neceſaris; Hit is trew that they ſent to Breſt to Intreate if happily the weare diſtreſt that the myght haue the fauor of
the

the harbor and fuch necesaris as the shoulde want for ther mony; But that was In some forte Reafused them by Madam Surdiaxe in the absence of her husbande lettynge them to know that all though there wear a leage betwyxt them and speaye as ther was betwyxt Inghlande and france yet that ther was more Reason why the shoulde gyue ayde to the Quene of Inghlande and her armey if the shoulde sicke to force them in that harbor: for that the had Reayfeaued meny benyfitte frome her Magesty In ther Greatest extremity: And as Capten Venarde Informes me the are specially purposed to a tempt this place: And ho hit is furnyshed for defence you partly understande w^{ch} defects we must suply as well as we meay wth the olde seayinge of Inghlande God and S^t George: let them come and they dare so wth my kyndest comēdatiō and my harty loue to yo^r selfe and my lady I comēd you to god. frome the forte the 30th of July:

Yo^r louinge cofin / FARD: GORGES.

End: 30 July 1599. S^r ferdinando Gorges to S^r Walter Raleigh./ To my honorable and louinge frinde S^r Walter Raleygh knyght Lorde warden of the Staneres:⁵⁷⁴ At Sherbor geue these: to be leste at the poste Masters to be sent to his house.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXI. No. 141.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

My humble and bounden duty remembred: / this present day I reseued a Letter or a Comysion from your lls: delyferede

⁵⁷⁴ Sir Walter Raleigh had been made, an office of profit and importance. in 1585, Lord Warden of the Stannaries, The word "stannary" is from *stannum*, tin;

fereyde me by the May^r, and diretted unto me, himsellfe, and M^r harres: for to mouster and pay my men by the poulle⁵⁷⁵ lyke wayes M^r bage the marchante — acquainted me wth a notheyer unto him fellfe for the payment of them acordingly . the reson of the takeinge of this Course wth me, and no notheyer Capⁿ. of my plase (all though non mor honest) was the knorlege your lle: haue of my formor mysdemennor in that behallfe wherof yt semeth her Maj^{ty} is mad acquainted:/ it is trewe I dyd Confesse (wher my harte ould not sufer me to deny a truth) my faulte and dyd ashour myfelf that your lle: had bin as well satisfyed wth my promyse of reformation upon confideration as you effely beleued my offense: but now I finde the Contrary and theyer wth my hart and senses stroken in to a fesor for the psent. so imposible and unable I am (I mouste Confesse) to leue disgrased or suspected wher I haue in deuered by all mannor of daingores and travell and Expensese to deserve well. and that yt should be now at on instant dashed by the myse reportes of sum ignorant or malifus parson, how hevey and insoportable theyes greafes are unto my natuer your lle: shall heyer farder heyer after. but the emenent dayngor of my countrey shall imforse me to for gete as mouch as is posible this pasion of grefe, the which is not for that I sorow that theyer is such a course taken nor is yt greve unto
me

tin; and the courts in Devonshire and Cornwall for the administation of justice among those connected with the great industry of tin-mining, an industry considered of national importance, were called stannary courts. Sir Walter, when this letter was written him,

was at Sherborne Castle enjoying one of those few brief intervals of rest that were vouchsafed to him in his busy life, and which he so much delighted to pass in his favorite Dorsetshire home.

⁵⁷⁵ By the poll or head.

me but that my dishonesty is published to be the cause theyerof: for I my selfe had taken order befor the arifall of your lls leteres that they should haue bin mustred and boked by fertayn of the goustefes of the Countrey who they have a proued unto your lls: that I had down my selfe ronge in my confesion. but now fethence your lls hath othayer wayes ordered yt I humbly submyte my selfe unto yt, all though I wish the cause theyer of hade bin for bor[ne] I be[se]che your lls. to consider howe the men I haue hade, hath bin armed and mayntayned armes to this present then, howe theyes That be armed mainteyned wth fyer wth bedes, wth candelles wth botes and diferes otheyer nefefaryes wher of I never yt passed any account or soute any satysfacion for all the which I doute not but your lls will thinke of, and geue order for, and if this newes of Cap̄ fenors be trewe your lls shall trewely knowe the[reof] theyer shall not be found a nonestor man of my nasyon then my selfe thus not presuminge to say any mor I humbly Comyt your lls to the ptxsion of the allmyghty. writen in hast and mouch payne the last of July by him that is

Your lls most hu[mble] at Comaund^t/

FARD: GORGES.

End: for hur Mag^{te} afares. To the Right h^o the lls: of hur mag^e priuey
Counfall geve theyes./ 1599. vi^{mo} Julij/ S^r Far: Gorges to y^e lls :/

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXII. No. 6.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humble dutie remembred It may appeere unto yo^r
Ho^r what I haue receaved W^{ch} in a sorte dothe confirme
fuch

fuch intelligens as hath byn brought by foe many wayes, and for my parte to giue unto yo^r. hono^r. my private opynion I doe verelie thinke that the Galleyes will prefentlie goe for y^e Low Countries and wth them a proportion of his beft fhippes wth y^e reft of the fleete and lande forces he will feeke to put a fhoare heere, there is reafon to beleue that his greateft attempte wilbe upon the Thames, for that is both a fhorthe Worke for him and wthout any greate difficultie, Yf yt be not haftelie prevented and other prevenfion there can not be made but by her Ma^{ties} fleete or an Army to be lodged upon the Ryvo^r, and that to be well ordered and furnifhed of all neceffaries, and this in my conceipte ys more and tyme weare alreadie put forward and a bridge made to paffe to each fide upon all o^ccons As alfoe to ftopp their paffage, for when thinges fhall be don upon a foodeyne efpecially amongeft people vninvred to thefe bufines yo^u will finde their mynde much amazed and them fealues much difcoraged, befides there muft be a tyme to fettle thinges in order efpecially for foe greate a bufines as this is: Of much hereof I haue had experiens att this tyme in fuch thinges as I haue to doinge heere, whereof I thought yt my dutie under corection both to advertife and to giue my pore oppinyon unto yo^r. hono^r./

Farther I doe humblie befech your hono^r. to be a meanes that fom Courfe may be taken to giue contente unto thefe honeft men that are alreadie come for the defence of this place, and dothe feme foe willinglie to adventuer both bodie and goodes that they may not be eyther difinabled agaynft an other tyme, or difcouraged att this prefent, Alfoe of the willingnes of the gent['] that are heere about, and the zealous
defier

desier they haue to pforme theire duties, and to shew theyre
 afections att this tyme, Ys not in my opynion amyffe to be
 remembred; and theire names to be noted as first S^r W^m
 Strode, M^r Coplestone⁵⁷⁶ my Cofen Gorges, and M^r Crymes,⁵⁷⁷
 for these hath ingaged themsealues to giue satisfaçcon unto
 theire Companyes, Yf otherwyse yt be not to be had
 whearof I besech yo^r Ho^r: to take notice, And soe to
 conceaue of yt as they will undoubtedlie deferue. Thus
 cravinge pardon. I humlie take my leaue written in haft
 from the forte by plimoth this 3. of August / 99 /

Yo^r hono^{rs} most humblie att Comaunde :/

FARD: GORGES.

End: To the right ho : S^r Robert Cecyll knight principall secretarie to her high-
 nes / 1599 / 3 Aug: S^r Far : Gorges to my M^r /,

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXII. No. 67.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

My bounden dutie unto yo^r Ll remembred: by these
 intellygence yt may appeere in my poore opynion, eyther
 that by reason of the sicknes, the w^{ch} is generall allongest
 the whole coast, they are not able to put to the seas soe
 hastelie as they expected, or els that they purpose to follow
 wth all expedition, eyther of the w^{ch} will easelie be deferued
 in

⁵⁷⁶ The Copplesones were an influential family in Devonshire, and allied to the family of Gorges by marriage.

⁵⁷⁷ Crymes was an enterprising man who erected labor-saving mills on Rorborough Down in order to work the tin-

mines there. The result was a violent opposition of the miners, who thought they saw in the machinery an attack on labor, and they cited Crymes before the Star-chamber; but he found an able defender in Sir Walter Raleigh.

in a shorte tyme .for yf yt be foe that they defer their enterprize then they will presentlie sever their army that they haue affembled in flaunders, and in like manner discharge their marriners for the present that they haue att the Groine, or otherwise yf their Jorneye be but deferred for a short tyme they will continew their Army there, and goe forward wth their preparations elfwheare. Notwth-standinge seeth yt is possible yf by vj and vij galleyes att a tyme they may convey their whole army and fleete of galleyes into the low countries that they will attempte to sett over their fleete of shippes att any tyme although yt be in winter. Thus much I presume (under yo^r Lls: favo^{rs}.) to write att this present, onlie to put yo^r Lls in remembrance of the 300: men heere continewd for the better defence of this place, And wthall to know yo^r Lls: pleasuer, whether they shalbe continewd or dismissed accordinge to the tyme that my lo: of Bath hath appoynted, as alsoe to understand of yo^r Lls: whether I shall proceede in those purposes w^{ch} I haue acquaynted yo^r Lls, I hould for the passinge of bridges or strenghtninge of these places, w^{ch} of necessitie are to be provided for, yf the purpose of th'enemye goe forward, inasmuch as yt doth stande the assured safetie of the whole estate of these partes upon; I haue forboren hetherunto the doinge of many necessarie worke in respecte of the chardge for that I could not understand from yo^r Lls; how acceptable yt myght be eyther unto her Ma^{tie} or yo^r Lls: Nether did I finde yt possible to drawe the Countrie unto any farther chardge. But of all this and yo^r Lls: farther pleasers I humblie desier to understande, wth what convenyencie your Lls: shall thinke fitt; Wthall I besech
yo^r

yo^r Lls to remember the reporte that ys giuen out of founte-
nendes: levyeing of 6000: french men for the king of
Spaine to be ymployed in this action, and how possible yt is
these monyes should be for him, and these galleyes to convey
him and his men to the army, but of this yo^r Lls are better
able to conceaue the probabilitie or truth then my seale,
unto whose graue Wisdomes, I humbly refer the consider-
ation of the whole: Comittinge yo^r Lls: to the proteccion
of the Almyghtie I humbly take my leaue: written from
St Nicholas Island this 23th of Auguste 1599:

Yo^r Lls: most humbly to be comaunded: /

FARD: GORGES.

End: To the right ho: my verie good Lls: the Lls: of her Ma^{ties} most honorable
privie Councill. 1599/ — 23 Aug: St Far: Gorgees to y^e lls — whether the
300 men shalbe there contynued. /

(Cecil Papers 73/20.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONORABLE. My Lo: of Bath sent out att his
beinge here a smale Pinace of this toune whereof Mr Bagge
and some others weare owners, whoe hath retorned this in-
telligence hereincloused, whereby yt may appeere that yt is
likelie theire purpose for England is broken of for this yere,
but the next they will goe forwards, wherefore seinge by ex-
perience the many defectes and wantes of this place, I thought
yt fitt in tyme to sollicite a supplie of as many of them as ys
possible to be provided, the w^{ch} I have herewth sent unto
theire Lls: humbly desiringe that such consideration may
be had of them, as the necessitie of this place and tyme
doth requier.

And

And in few wordes to speake unto you of the estate of these partes in generall, to th'ende you may not be deceived by what you may heere by the reportes of ignorant people. First for the gentrie they are in faction and devided amongst themfealves, foe as whatsoever the one would make the other will endevo^r to marr, and in truth ignorante what they ought to doe; the moste of them of a disposition to please the people about them, wthout a found consideration of the publique good, the people themfealves (I meane the men appoynted to armes) a raw multitude, wthout eyther use of their armes or knowledge of any order. Soe as howsoever we made shew of our fealves, yf wee had byn sodenlie attempted, you would have hard of much confewfion and myghtie disorders. For heere was not one Capⁿ nor officer more then I had of my owne that understoode any thinge. These 300: that are heere, yf yt might stand wth her Ma^{ts} pleasuer to keepe them heere untill the next yeere, would be better then any 1500: in the Countrie to be brought in hether upon a sodeyne besids yt would be a meanes to continew some officers together, to her Ma^{tie} a greate certeyntie, and the undoubted fastie of this place. farther. yf the enemy offer to land in any other parte of this Countrie I can my fealfe wth better assurnnce promyse to ympeach his landinge, and warrant to keepe him from fortessieinge upon all this Coaste, yf foe I may be authorised from her Ma^{tie}, for by this alreadye paste bothe the state of this people and countrie is sufficientlie known unto me, and what course is to be taken wth them, the w^{ch} maketh me the boulder to presume to speake thus much. The comoditie of kepinge them heere, can be nothings unto me in my particuler, for I have
appoynted

appoynted them to feverall Capteyns, as 100: to my Cousen Gorges to whome I have appoynted a sufficient liuetennt, an other 100: to Capⁿ Dodington, and the third to Capⁿ Catchmay, this I have don att this present the better to defende the place, as alsoe to kepe some officers together, my owne estate indeede beinge soe weake as I am not able to doe any more of my sealse, havinge spent all upon them I have byn able to make. This I humbly referr unto your hono^{rs} confideration, wthall desiringe that yt may please your hono^r to be a meanes to helpe my present wante w^{ch} I doe protest is not smale: for w^{ch} I shall be bounde to pray for yo^r hono^r, and rest for ever att

Your hono^{rs} comaundem^t/ FARD: GORGES.

Add. To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cecyll knight principall Secretarie to her Ma^{ty} End. 1599 25 Aug. S^r Far: Gorges to my M^{ty} 1½ pp.

(Cecil Papers 73/23.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

My bounden duty remembred May yt pleffe your lls I have sent this berer Ca^p Leget as well to pout your lls in mynd of the grete want bothe of ordenan^{se} and shote for the defense of this plasse as to bringe theys Letteres wherby yt may apere that the define of the Enemy for Ingland is for this yer alltreyd, and I do humbly beche your lls, sum Course may be taken for the suply theyer of in tym in as mouch as the want is so evedente to all men of any gougment I will forber to speke what shiftes I haue bin forsed unto for want theyer of, yt a cordinge unto the ould fayinge better a bad shifte than non at all: Such ordenan^{se} as by your lls, I was

a poyntd to reſeve out of Corfe,⁵⁷⁸ this berer cann beſte de-
lyfor what anſor he had and what they wer that ar theyer,
for I intreted him to take the paynes in as mouch as I my
fellſe could not have Leyſor to have ſene them ſhipped and
ſente to this plaſe. ſo humbly atendinge your lls the farder
pleſur I take my leve writen in haſt this 25 of Augouſt

Yo^r lls humbly at Comand / FARD: GORGES.

Holograph. Add. To the Right ho^r the lls: of hur Mag^t moſt ho^r prevy Counſell
theys. End. 1599 25 Aug. S^r Far: Gorges to y^e lls. 1 p.

(State Papers, Domeſtic Correſpondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXII. No. 84.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

My humble dutie remembred. I receaved your Lls: lere
dated the 25th of this iuſtante the 27th of the ſame att one
of the Clocke att night directed to my Lo: of Bath. By
the w^{ch} yt ſeemeth to be yo^r Lls pleaſuer (upon intelly-
gence of the arrivall of the Spannyſh fleete upon the
Coaſt of Brittany), that the forces of this Countie ſhould
be aſſembled, to wthſtand any attempte they ſhould make
upon any of theſe Coaſtes. The ſame intelligence was
brought unto y^r lo: on Thurſday laſte Whereupon his Lls:
had giuen direCTIONS that the forces ſhould march to the
places appoynted for the rendezvouze agreed one by his
L^p: and his deputies, upon the deſolvinge of the Troopes
when theie weare laſte aſſembled, But one Thurſday att
night I underſtoode yt was but Sixe gallyes that was ſeene
upon

⁵⁷⁸ Corfe Caſtle, in the iſle of Purbeck. was diſmantled by the troops of Crom-
The caſtle is ſtill a well-preſerved ruin, well.
though founded in the Saxon era. It

upon the Coaste, and those weare to goe wth certeyne Treaſurer, into the low Countries, and that for certeyne there weare noe Shippes in theire Company, the w^{ch} was advertized unto yo^r Lls by the Maio^r and my ſealfe that preſent night; as alſoe I ſignified as much unto my lo: liuetenante that preſente whereupon the Troopes weare agayne diſmiſſe. And for the farther confirmation of the truth of what had byn formerlie reported, heere arrived a Carvell on Satterday wth certeyne ſpanniſh lēres ſignifieinge att lardge the departuer of the Adelantado for the Iſlande, all the w^{ch} weare ſent unto theire Lls: by Capⁿ leggatt, Whoe I preſume is longe ſence arrived. After whoſe departuer unto this preſent there hath not any thinge com unto my handes worthie the writinge, but as ſoone as ought doth come unto my knowledge, I will wthout delay make preſent advertizem^t unto yo^r Lls: thereof as yt is my dutie: Thus comittinge yo^r Lls: unto the proteccion of the Almightye: I humble take my leaue:—

Yo^r lls: moſt humble to be Commaunded /

FARD: GORGES.

From the forte by PLIMOTH this 28th of Auguſte/ 99: /

End: To the right honorable my verie good lls: the Lls: of her Mat^s: moſt honorable privie Councelle. 1599. 28. Aug: S^r Far: Gorges to y^e lls: /

(State Papers, Domeſtic Correſpondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXII. No. 93.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

My bounden dutie unto your good Lls: remembred: This inſtante day (by vertue of warrante from the lo: liuetenn^t) I haue diſmiſſed the 300: men appoynted by your
Lls:

Lls: for the better defence of this place whereof I thought yt my dutie to giue your Lo^{ps} to understande to thende yt yf your Lls shall find yt fitt in yo^r graue Wifdomes and better knowledge of th'enemyes purpose or proceedinges, such order may be taken for their retorne hether agayne as to your lls: shalbe thought most meete: for my owne parte I must confesse yt, to be both against my advise, and will. Inasmuch as although I haue understoode of the departuer of the Delantado from the Groine, and therewth haue seene some of their opinions that they weare gon for the Treasuer, Yet I doe farther understande, that all that may be, but a devise whereby he myght assuer himselfe (upon Notize giuen unto yo^r lls of his departuer) all the forces appoynted for defence should be dismissed, to the w^{ch} assurance he myght be perswaded by many reasons. First the unseasonableness of the yere therebie comonly beleved, not fitt for him to make Warres upon our Coast (although he came y^e laste tyme in October). Nexte the Chardge that yt would be unto us, noe wayes to be boren by our estate att this instante, and therefore would accepte of any reasonable excuse to disburden our selves thereof: And the cause that perswadeth me to this my suspition, ys, that he hath taken wth him soe many of his land forces wth soe extraordinarie a proportion of all thinges, beinge in efecte all that he had provided for his attempte against England, and in all reason a proportion farr exceedinge what myght be necessarie for any thinge he could stand doubtfull of to be accompted in these partes, as alsoe that the gallies are still att the Groine, wthout any order but to remayne there untill they should heere farther from the Delantado: and what provision that
can

can possiblie be made is still transported thether, the w^{ch} doth argue in my pore opynion noe p^rpose in him to defer any tyme but onlie a devise to worke his owne advantage, therebie thinkinge to take her Ma^{tie} att unawares and unprovided for defence. This considered yt semeth unto me (under yo^r lls: corections) that yt can not be amyffe to doubte as much, and to provide to secuer a place so dangerous, seinge wth foe easie and foe reasonable a proportion of meanes yt may be obteyned. Perhappes I may shew my fealfe more bould then doth becom me, to seme doubtfull of that the w^{ch} yo^r lls in yo^r better knowledg haue noe reason to doubt of: for my said defaulte I humblie craue to be pardoned and that yt may please yo^r Lls: to reput yt unto my care, as desirous by foresight to avoide an emynent and dangerous myscheefe: The consideration hereof I comend to yo^r Lls: graue and better knowledg: And foe wth remembraunce of my humble dutie unto your good Lls: I humblie take my leaue: Written from her Ma^{ties} forte by Plimoth this 30th of Auguste 1599: /

Yo^r lls: most humblie to be Comaunded: /

FARD: GORGES.

End: To the right honorable my verie good Lls: the Lordes of her Ma^{ties}: most ho: Privie Councill./ The 300 men appointed for the defence of this place discharged./

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXIV. No. 101.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

MAY YT PLEASE YO^R. HO^R: Here is com unto me this present day one William Nuten an ould man, And as he faieth belonging to my Lo: Admirall, whoe was taken
coming

coming out of the streites in a shipp of London (called the Chaunce) by the Indian fleete that brought home the Kinges Treasuer, who reporteth that they ariued in S^t Lucas the 14: of februarie, and brought wth them 13: myllyons of Siluer and 5: of Gould: Alfoe the said examynnt doth say that in the tyme of his aboade there he had conference wth a frier one S^t George, Parson of S^t George in S^t Lucas, and Chapleyne to the Duke De Medina,⁵⁷⁹ whose femed to bewayle unto him the danger that was pretended unto his Countrie, layeing open the preparation that was in hand, and their purpose eyther to goe for the west parte of England or for Ireland. Assuringe that to his knowledg there weare in that Riur 24: faile of Gallyounes the most of them Rigged, and that there weare att farold 24: faile of smale shippes more appoynted for the same seruise. In like manner that there was in the Riuer of Ciuill diuers of those that weare distressed the last yere, also that diue's Galleyes weare appoynted to be readie, and that they did expect theyre fleete would consist of 30: thousand souldiers and 80: sayle of Shippes of warr besides Galleyes victualers & Shipps for transportaçon and they all appoynted to make their Rendeuoz att the Groyne wth what Speed they can possibly be readie. Farther he doth
say

⁵⁷⁹ Gaspar Alonzo Perez de Guzman, Duke of Medina Sidonia, was a Spanish statesman, brother-in-law of Duke John of Braganza, whom the Revolution of 1640 placed on the throne of Portugal. The Duke of Medina having failed in an attempt to make himself soveraign of Andalusia, was condemned to challenge the King of Portugal as a knight-errant,

and to await his coming on the frontier of the kingdom. Here he was obliged to remain for a considerable period armed cap-a-pie, awaiting a foe who was not to appear, and stung to madness by the ridicule of his enemies. After the completion of his sentence he kept from the public view, his proud spirit having been completely broken.

fay that the fame newes was confirmed unto him by diu'es both freench m̃chaunts and Inglish men, and wthall that it is questionable whether pedow de Valdefon⁵⁸⁰ or the Delantado doth Comaund, but yf that the one doth Com then tho'ther of them is appoynted to take Chardg of the Gallies in the streightes: Likewise that before the arriuall of the Treasuer there was no such expectaçon of any preparation to be made this yere; But now yt is freshe in everie mans mouth. Thus much I thought yt my dutie to giue notice of unto your Hono^r, how trew or untrew foeuer yt may seme to be. Humblie prayeing that confideration may be had of the wantes, (in a manner) of all necessaries for the defence of this place, and ympeachm^t of his descent to any greate purpose, our Countrie hauing in a manno^r laid aside all conceipte or opinion of the use of their Armes by reason of the Co^mon Rumo^r and expectaçon of peace as more playnely yt will hereafter appeere when men of understandinge shalbe required by her Ma^{te} or their lls: to loke into those afaires. All the w^{ch} I humblie recomend unto yo^r graue wisdom to be considered And for my owne parte I will continew as yt is my dutie.

Your ho: humblie to be comaunded: /

FARD: GORGES.

Written from the forte of PLIMOTH this xjth of Aprill 1600.

End: To the right ho: S^r Roberte Cecyll knight principall Secretary to her highnes. Spanyſhe Aduysees delyuered by one Willyam Newton.

(Cecil

⁵⁸⁰ Pedro de Valdes, or Valdefon, was a Captain and Lieutenant-General of some renown in the reign of Philip III. He commanded one of the ill-

fated ships belonging to the Spanish Armada, which was captured and taken into Dartmouth.

(Cecil Papers 78/58.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO: I have byn entreated by S^r Thomas Sherley,⁵⁸¹ to take into my custodie som things of his because as yt semeth by him he is in doubt yt may be lyable unto his debtes, and so he shalbe forced, (yf they have libertie to entermedle there wth all and to Ceaze thereupon) to sell yt for their fatisfaccons to his greate hinderañce & losse. I have byn willing to do him all kindnes to the uttermost of my power, and will do so still, but because I do not know how yt may be taken, yf complaynt should be thereof made unto yo^r lls: I have forboren to yeld unto yt, untill I may heere from yo^r ho: in that behalfe, unto whome I perceave he hath written himsealfe as unto his onlie hope and from whome he doth expecte all his good to proceed. For my owne parte I never saw pore gent[~] in a more myserable estate, being afflicted wth extremyte of sicknes, neerelie destitute of honest and trustie servants and matched wth an unrulie rout of marrino^{rs}, insomuch as I dare to say yf yt had not byn his fortune to have com into this place he had not byn 1000[£]: the better for all that he hath brought wth him, what yo^r ho: shall eyther comaund or advize me unto upon your lere (wherein I may shew my Love unto you or any freend of yours) I protest I will do what is possible for me.

Your ho: unfeynedlie to be comaunded /

From the Forte this 13th of Aprill 1600 :

FARD: GORGES.

This

⁵⁸¹ Sir Thomas Shirley was one of three brothers, all extensive travellers in the Orient. So renowned did they become as travellers in strange lands, that their adventures were made the subject of a popular drama, under the title of *The Travels of the Three English Brothers*.

This inclofed came unto me as I was redey to fend this to your hono^r, but if hur mag^t fhipes had bin heyer I durft not have geven them notes theyerof be caufe I perfeve they have taken the lyke unkindly and have mad my Lo: Admarall to think evell of me be fydes for my good will to hur Mag^t ferfes and his Ls:

The postscript in Gorges' hand.

Add: To the right ho: S^r Robert Cecyll knight principall Secretarie to her highnes. End: 1600 13 Apr: S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r a L^re from M^r Willyam Treffrye. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 79/46.)

THE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH, SIR F. GORGES, AND MR. HARRIS
TO THE COUNCIL.

OURE humble and bounden duties remembred: May yt please your good Lls: to be advertized, heere is brought in by Capteyne Carpenter three young gentlemen taken by him passing out of Fraunce into Spaine in a freench barque; whose examynations (according to yo^r Lls: directions unto us given in that behalfe) we doe herewth humblie recomend to your Lls. graue wifdoms to be considered. In the meane tyme we have taken order for their safe keping, untill yt please your Lls. to give farther directions what shalbe don wth them. Soe wth our dutifull and daylie prayers to the Almyghtie for the continuñce of your Lls. in health and long prosperitie we humblie take our
leaves.

leaves. Written from the Forte att Plymoth this 12th of May 1600.

Your Lls. euer readie to be comāunded /

FARD: GORGES.

CHR: HARRIS.

RIC: HITCHENS,⁵⁸² Maiore.

Add: To the right ho: our verie good lls. the Lls of her Ma^{ty} most honorable privie Councill. End: 1600 12 May. Mayor of Plymmothe S^r Far: Gorges M^r Chr: Harrys to y^e Lls. wth th' examynacons of 3 younge gent: bound for Spayne and taken by Cap^{en} Carpenter. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 4/22.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

My humbl duty remembreyd yt may plesse your ho^r to understand the refon whie I apoynted not any fense the writtinge of my ferst to geve atendanse upon your ho^r: for the solifetyng of y^e wardshipe of the younge Griffeth⁵⁸³ was for that I could not heyer by any menes the fertenty of his estate and theyrfor forbor to be trublsom unto your ho^r: untell I hade ashouranse what corffe was fyttest for me to take in yt. but seyth yt hath pleseyd you to votfate me ashouranse of your ho^r fafor in that bhallf I have of pourpas sent on for the fouling theyorof and have geven comaundment that he should atend your ho^r for your resolufion upon cnoulege from tym to tym of the corffe to be taken in thos afares wher in I my sellf am
aftraingor

⁵⁸² Richard Hitching, spelled also Hocking and Hutching. He was elected Mayor of Plymouth in 1599, at which time a new charter was granted the town.

⁵⁸³ George Griffith, with whom Gorges was afterwards associated in colonial enterprifes.

astraingor and utterly ignorant. but in the mentym I do think my selfe bound unto your ho^r that yt hath plesed you so Nobly to geve me your promyse of forderanse and fafore in that behallf protestinge that if yt may ever lye in my pouer by my serfyes to deserue by any menes your ho^r kindnes I will be as redey as he that

Your ho^r may comaund as your owne / FARD: GORGES.

yt may plesse your ho^r to give derexsion what shall be down wth the otheyr to who still remayneth heyer in preson atendinge theyer Lls. plesuer.

Holograph. Addressed. To the Right ho^r S^r Robert Cicell knyght prinsepall Secretary to hur Mag^{ty} theyes wth spede. End: Iuly 1600. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my M^r. 1 p.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXV. No. 30.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONO^r: / Almost a day after that M^r Mayo^r had made his advertizm^t he gaue me notice of a certeyne French man that was arived heere whoe doth reporte that for trewth peter Sebenes is readie wth 25: faile of Fliboates full of fouldiers, to goe as they giue yt out for Ireland. Yt seemeth in efec^te to be a confirmation of the same w^{ch} somtyme fence yo^r hono^r receaued from hence: As alsoe that there is in Lisborne certeyne men of Warr readie to goe for the Wafting of the Carecks. But for that in my pore opinion I hould yt mor probable that they rather purpose to com upon these Westerne parts or that they will seeke to transporte those
land

land men for the Low Countries, I thought yt fitt in discharge of my bounden dutie to remember yo^r lo: how unfurnished we are heere, and unable wthout farther meanes to make defence against such Troopes as yt is possible for them to bringe in that propoⁿtion of Shipping; What the defectes are the w^{ch} we stand in want of weare att my last being before yo^r Lls: made knowen. The seruice and comoditie y^t will ensue by the safe defence of a place of this Ymporte is her Ma^{te}. And for my owne parte there can be noe more expected Att my handes then my honest and discreet endeuo^{rs}, Yf that shall be wanting, I desier both punishm^t and shame to be inflicted upon me. And therefore unles yt may be Justlie laid unto my charge that I did not from tyme to tyme upon all occations of suspition or doubt giue notice thereof: — I doe agayne humblie entreate your hono^r that yt may please yo^u for godes cause, to be a meanes that supplie may be made of thinges necessarie: how great the prejudice and inconvenience would be, yf any thing should be offered and we not able to make resistance your hon^r in yo^r wisdom doth sufficientlie conceaue. A cheefe reason that perswadeth me that this preparation is rather intended for this place then any other, is, for that yt is certeynelie knowen that Peter Sebenes hath undertaken wth 25: or 30: faile of Fliboate to com to this place and to enter yt under the Collo^r of fleminge, and soe to sease upon the Forte and strenghte, to burne the towne and Countrie neere adjoyning. And yf he shall see yt reasonable to hould them untill farther suplies may com, to settle a Course for the Accomplishm^t thereof. Yf other wise to dismantlement and soe departe att their pleasuer. this I protest upon my knowledg

knowledg they may doe yf by yo^r hono^{rs} meanes her Ma^{tie} be not perfwaded to fettle fome courfe for the prevenfion thereof. I haue byn bould onlie to addrefse my fealfe in this behaulfe unto your hono^r, for w^{ch} I humblie Craue pardon, Reffering unto yo^r graue wifdom the confideration thereof. And prayeing unto the Almighty for the increafe of yo^r hono^r, I humblie take my leaue. Written From the forte of Plymoth this 15th of Julie 1600:

Yo^r hono^{rs} ever to be comaunded / FARD: GORGES.

End: To the right ho: S^r Robert Cecyll knight principall Secretarie to her highnes./ An aduyce delyuered by a Frenchman of Sebures being ready wth xxv^{ty} fayle of Flyboats, full of men to come for Ireland./

(Cecil Papers 83/13.)

H. HEATH TO SIR F. GORGES.

SIRE Having fo fitt convenence I wolld not omet the writing although my newes doth not import much yet your acoftomed kindnes moves me to be ftill defirewos to contnew the fame, for the wich porformanes my good will fhall ever followe you wich am not other wayes abell to plefure you.

We are entred in to the broken ftat of Irland wich ftandes moft despred and full of rebellyon the goverment is confused and covered with imperfektion, everye ftates man apofing him felf againft the other fo as god fayth fuch a kingdom canot ftand in fewe wordes every man doth what he will and nevare one that wich he oughte. but right trew is it fpoken the uphowlding of a feue is the over throw of many, and no greater enemy to great men then to much propertye
for

for that it takes from them oft times all rewell⁵⁸⁴ of them felfes and makes them full of liberty and gives them bowldnes to do evell, not regarding that the envyous mynd doth mor harom to him felf many times thene he wifheth hurt unto his enemye.

our entertainment hath binne as cowlde as if theye wer forye for our cominge, ther wordes harfh ther lockes fowre ther derecktioncs greveoues, the reft anfwarabell to thes inpenementes, the refon wher two much for fo weck a man as my felf to difpute of yet if I fpend my opinyone I trust I fhall not be condemned of *you* allthough not beleved of many. Sir Samuell Bagnoll⁵⁸⁵ having the abfolut comand of thes 2 thowfand men, a thinge unacoftomed to the contrye and very unfavory to the Counfell of Irland licking. our Comander being a man not defirous to imparte with any of his atorytye but thingkes to governe him felf acording to the derecktioncs of lafoylle, with out fecking anythinge at ther handes wich the ftates of Irland canot indure. this makes them to lock fowr one us and gives noe countenantes to our men. plaseth us in the worft garefones and tombles our tropes up and downe hoping ther by in tim to breack us and allter our porpofe wich I thingk thay may founne breng to paffe, if this be not fo I am contented to be counted a lier upon condition that it prove no worfe. all other our profedinge this bearer Cap Jobe can fertefye you to the full. hom I will leav to mak report what I hav written is to the
end

⁵⁸⁴ Rule.

⁵⁸⁵ Sir Samuel Bagnall was a follower of the Earl of Effex, and took an active part in the Cadiz expedition. After the capture of the city, September 15th,

1596, Effex in the first flush of victory knighted a number of his adherents on the field. Among thefe was Captain Samuel Bagnall, who was one of thofe wounded in the battle.

end to give you asurantes of my love and a gage of my good wille. thus leving you to the devynety of the all-mygthy hom I desire ever to keap you.

Your most assured ever to comand/ HUG: HEATH.

TREDOUGH in Irland the 6 of octob

Holograph. Add: To my honorabell and assurd good Frend Sir Ferdinando Gorges knighte comander of her mageste fort at Plemoth giv thes. End: Heath to Ferdinand Gorge. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers c. b. 2/65.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT Ho^r I have desyered by my best menes to intrest my fellf in to your ho^r faffor and good opinion, and yt hath plesede you of late as at otheyr tymes heyr to fore to make me taste of your kinde respete to me by what menes or how to mereyt yt I know not, unlesse yt will plesse you to make youse of my serfyce wherin you thinke yt worthy the imployment, in the men tym such is my unhapeynes as I moust continually mor and mor make my fellfe a trublsom sutter to your ho^r, humbly desieringe that yt will plesse you to call to remembrance my pore estat the w^{ch} in foun parte I mad known to your ho^r at my last beinge wth you: That hath forsed me at this present to send up my wiffe (whos estat I have spent) to passe my acountes for fouch monyes as I have reseved of hur mag^t, and to shew for what shall goustly apeyer to be dewe unto me. in all the w^{ch} I bynd my fellfe uppon your ho^r fafor the rathor for that yt plesed you to votsafe to promyse your funderanse unto hur mag^t for sumthinge tourdes my releffe

releffe, and the fatisfyng of my credettores, for the w^{ch} I
fhall allwayes be bound to praye for your hapeyne[fs] and
for ever to continew

Your ho^r at command / FARD: GORGES.

Written from PLYMOUTH the 30 of October 1600.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r S^r Robert Cecyll Knyght, prinſypall Secre-
tary to hur Mag^t and of hur highnes prevey Counſell. End: 1600 30 Oct:
S^r Far: Gorgees to my M^r From Plymmothe. 1 p.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXV. No. 139.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

MAY YT PLESSE YOUR HO^r; This preſent daye I haue
reſeued from difores perſones vnderſtandinge of ferten
ſpaneſh men of war that ar uppon the coſt to the num-
ber of 8 ſeyell theyer men ar moſt land men they haue
taken of the Lezard a ſhipe of War and to barkes of
Loo, and to botes of Sallaum wherof they funke the on
and do deteyn the M^r but haue ſete the mo^{ſt} of the men
aſhore mor by ſoum that cam from S^t Marey porte⁵⁸⁶ and
Cales; yt is reported that at Liſſborn theyr ar 60. ſayell of
ſhipes full of men and redy to ſete ſayell, by this. yt is
thought that they ether goo for the Low cuntreyes wth
ſuplyes to the Cardenall,⁵⁸⁷ or ellſe to atempte ſumthing
uppon theiſ weſtorn partes, the Conſideraſion wherof I
humbly refere to your ho^{rs} wiſſdom humbly crauinge you
to call to remembraſe the wantes both of men and ſoſeſent
menes

⁵⁸⁶ A ſeaport in Andaluſia.

⁵⁸⁷ This was Albert, Cardinal Arch-

duke of Auftria, mentioned elſewhere
in theſe letters ſimply by his title.

menes for to defend this plaffe if hapely they shoulde geue any atempte uppon yt: of this much acordinge vnto my duty I thought my selfe bound to geue your ho^r advertifment of restinge allwayes redy to make manyfest my honest indevor and senseys to your ho^r as on that is faythfuly/

Your ho^{rs} to be comaunded / FARD: GORGES.

From PLYMOUTH this 13. of desember 1600 :

End: To the Right ho^r S^r Robert Cecyll knight prenssepall secretary to her Ma^{ty} and of her most ho^r prevey Consell geue theyes. 13 Decembr. 1600. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my M^r from Plymouth / 8 Dunkerker on the Coast of Cornwall. A ship of foy taken by thē.

(Cecil Papers 83/78.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE EARL OF NOTTINGHAM AND
SIR R. CECIL.

MAY YT PLESSE YOUR LL. to the fouerthe⁵⁸⁸ for my mor afhouranfe to provaylle in diffwadinge the enterpryse of the Cort, I proved a inposiblety to a complysh yt wth any menes that they hade at that tyme, spesually for that yt was not to be douted but that the alarum was so taken that the gardes wer strenned⁵⁸⁹ so as beinge disapoynted of the ferst they shoulde be left wth out hope, to this theyer was no contredixsion.

by me / FARD: GORGES.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r my very good ll the Errell of Notengm L high Admarall of England and S^r Robert Cessell prinsepall secretary to hur Mag^t geve theyes. End: S^r Ferd: Gorge. 1600^o ab^t Feb 10. (?) ½ p.

⁵⁸⁸ The fourth question propounded to him relative to the Essex rebellion.

⁵⁸⁹ Strengthened.

(Cecil Papers 186/56.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO^R. if yt plesse you to coumaund me to coume to your ho^r when S^r Wallter Ralley and your ho^r will apoynt, to be to getheyr in foun convenient plasse, yt maye be I shall saye that I cannot write w^{ch} will be mor avayllable then any thinge I have or cann gouftly subscrybe unto. if you plesse so to thinke well yt will be best this nyght for if I be not deseved yt will be to late to morow. in the mentym I humbly coumend your ho^r to the protexsion of the allmyghty restinge most unfaynedly duringe lyffe

Your ho^r at comand / FARD: GORGES.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r S^r Robert Ceiffell knight prenfepall secre-
tary to hur Magesty. End. S^r Ferd: Gorge to my L. $\frac{1}{2}$ p.

(State Papers, Dom. Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CCLXXXIII.A, No. 33.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HON^R: At my last beinge wth your hon^r it femed to me that I was of nesecity to refoulfe my fellfe to roun foun foren or newe hope if it be soo, that my Enemyes, and my ounde misfortuenes haue soo mouch prevailed against me, it resteth then of my parte, humbly to intreat that by your ho^{rs} meanes (for by it I haue bin made most hapey in all my trubles) Hur Highnes may be aduertised how submisifly and gratfully I haue Exceptted Hur free and Princly Parden and How Carfull I willbe to seeke by all meanes to deserue soo high and grafues a fassour: Secondly
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how forowfull I am that I was boren so vnhappy, to suffer my selfe to be so farre mislede, by any ouer-weninge confayte, or fond affection to geue so highe and goust occasion of offence to so graues and beninge a suffrand: spesually in a matter of that Natuer, so contrarey to my disposicion Purpos and Profesion: Thurdly howe greues it is unto me that after the expence of so maney yeres in hur Highnes serfes, so much bloud lost, and my holle estate wasted, I shoulde now be forsed to secke to rayes a newe foundation under a forin Prince, and in a strainge nation, Espeshually hauing by hur Mag^{ts}. graues fafores bestowed uppon me heyr to fore, in abled my selfe to exicut thos duties that may be requiered at my handes, And lastly that it is no fantastical Discontent or Iddell hummor that makes me subgete my selfe to a willingenes to loue my Countre and my Souereintes serfes. For the God of Heuen duth know (whom I take to recorde) that they ar bothe most preshues unto me of any worly respect, But it is ondly the Extremety of my ound present wantes, and the dispayer I haue of my meanes vnabl to resist the vncharetable males of my fallse, Clandringe and bake biting Enemyes whos poueres semes to swaye the greatenes of my frindes and theyer saffouer to me, But I trust that God will so derecte my Corse and me in my atemptes, that hur highnes shall deseru theyer perfidus delinge, and my frindes repe honor and thanks of hur for theyer carfull loues touredes me.

What I haue mor to saye before I fertenly resoullse wth my selfe what corse to take, Concernes my loue and respecte in perticolor vnto your honor, and therefore that
theyer

theyer may be wantinge in me, no offes of duty and loue, to so kinde and worthey a parson, I humbly desier it maye plese you to asine me soun tyme when your honeres lasor may best serue to geue my attendans vppon you, when it may be laffull, for a free, faithfull and honest speret, to discouer him sellfe, and his particolor affexsion wthout of- fenc, wher in, I resoullfe to make it apere, that I pourpouse not, basly to roun the corant of the tim, to serfe my present tourn, after the fashion of this age wher in wee leue, but to folow my ound natuer, and resolutely to rise, or fall wth the fortuen of my frindes. and princepaly thos, that hath bound me to them, by ashurances of fassores reseued, profedinge from a vertues natuer, and a hon^r disposicion, and such is the obligasion by which I stand for Euer bound to be

Your honores at Coumaund /

I beche you to inquier of this berer the reson whie I caure not my sellfe to haue performed this duty by worde of mouth and to returne me by him such aunfor as your wisdum shall thinke me worthey of for the tim hastenes, and nesesity is be yend all lawe,

FARD: GORGES.

written the 18 of february. /

End: To the Right hor^{ty} S^r Robert Cycelle knight Princepall Secretary to hur
Mag^{ty} geue thes / S^r Ferdinando Gorges 1600. /

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 83/87.)

EXAMINATION OF SIR F. GORGES.

EXA^m of S^r Ferdinando Gorge knight taken the 18 of Febr. 1600.

He confesseth that the Erle of Effex sent him upon the Tuesday as he takethe it before the day of the open Rebellōn, unto Drewry howse to a Conference w^{ch} was appointed between the Erle of Southampton and other gent[~] whōs opinōn and resolutiō the Erle desyered to have upon certein articles w^{ch} he would send to be propofed unto them. He Repayred thether accordingly, and fownd at Drewry howse the Erle of Southampton S^r Charles Danvers,⁵⁹⁰ S^r Jhon Davyes,⁵⁹¹ and Jhon Littleton⁵⁹² Esq^r, S^r Jhon Davyes brought the Propositons all of the hand writing of the Erle of Effex and wth all a Cathologue of the names of Divers Erles, Barons and Gent[~] that he made accoumpt of would adhere unto him, to the nomber in all of fix score or ther abouts.

The articles and propositions of w^{ch} they were to advise,
and

⁵⁹⁰ Sir Charles Danvers was a descendant of Roland D'Anvers, a companion of the Conqueror. He was a friend of Effex, and on account of his participation in the treason of that nobleman, was attainted and suffered death at the hands of the headfman; a privilege allowed only to noblemen. and which at his urgent request was "graciously" permitted by the Queen.

⁵⁹¹ Sir John Davis was one of the knights created by Effex in Ireland, and by the Earl's influence was ap-

pointed Surveyor of Ordnance in the Tower of London. By his connection with Effex he was involved in that nobleman's conspiracy against the government, and suffered death therefor with other confederates in treason.

⁵⁹² John Littleton was of a good family, which was seated at Frankley, Worcestershire. He was involved in the Effex rebellion, and was attainted of treason, but escaped the scaffold by dying in prison immediately after his condemnation.

and fet down ther opinons, were thre the first was to seas upon the Cowrt,

2. to seas upon the Towar

3. and to sease upon the Cyty,

That of the Towar was propownded also double-wise whether it were better to sease upon the Cowrt and the Towar bothe at one tyme, or first of the one, and after on the other,

These propositons were debated and every man did deliver and fet down his opinion, w^{ch} was collected in writing and after the Erle did himself Resolve upon them, and fet down his Resolution in writing:

The manner how he should sease upon the Cowrt was in this fort, Ther should be sent thether before disperfedly of his confederates to the number of ⁵⁹³ besydes ther followers, who should repayr some to the hall, some others to the great chamber, an other nomber to the Prefence Chamber, some should be placed in the loby and some at the gates To the Prefence Chamber S^r Charles Davers was appointed, S^r Ihon Davyes to the hall, and S^r xstofer blunt ⁵⁹⁴ as he takethe it to the gate, him self to the gate by the Preching Place.

These

⁵⁹³ Blank in manuscript.

⁵⁹⁴ Sir Christopher Blount was a descendant of the noble family of Mountjoy, and received knighthood at the hands of Lord Willoughby in the Netherlands, where he was serving at the time. He was conspicuous in the Cadiz expedition, and after the death of Leicester married his widow, Lettice Knollys, cousin to Elizabeth, and before her marriage with Leicester, the widow of Walter, Earl of Essex. He was there-

fore stepfather of Robert, Earl of Essex, and it was his violent counsel which hurried the unfortunate Earl into the treasonable course which resulted in the destruction of both. On the scaffold Sir Christopher besought the pardon of Raleigh, whose ruin he had fought with great vindictiveness, and was generously forgiven by the brave man, whom, upon one occasion, he had even attempted to assassinate.

These confederates being thus disposed then a watche word should be given or signall, and at that instant every of the forenamed knights should seafe on the place to w^{ch} he was appointed wher they had hope to fynd diuers others besydes them selues indifferently affected by w^{ch} tyme the Erle of Effex would be Ready to enter into the Cowrt and accompanied wth the Erles and Barons in his Company would present him self unto the Q^{ne}. That don some should be sent unto the Cyty of London, to give them satisfacton of his doings. It was also agreed that the Captayn of the Guard should be seafed on at the same tyme in such Place wher he should be, and the lyk don of some other Cownfellors,

This being executed then they had projected to call a parlament in w^{ch} those they cownted aduers against them should haue their tryall.

End: 18 Feb. 1600 S^r Ferdinando Gorge. 1½ pp.

(Cecil Papers 85/173.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO^r I fynde that you have dellt both nobly and most ho^r wth me and myne in this tym of my misfaryes: for you were the ferst that gave me any ashouranse of Cumfort, so you have continued your fafor unto this present, in that I understand you were the menes I haue reseved the lyberty of the prisson, w^{ch} I ashour you is no small Cumfort to a destrefed mynde: Tastinge the grettnes of your faffor, I do acnoulege my fellfe infenetly bounde unto your ho^r, and do presume humbly to intrete the continuans theyerof: I am not ignorant

rant that theyer is no protestationes yt I cann mak will be a sofesent Justefeycation or Cleringe of me, for the aparanse of the Evell I am in question for, wherfor, my petission unto you is y^t yt will plesse you to votesafe to take Cnoulege of my sorofull and penetent harte for my offense unto hur Grafus Magestey and my drede soferant, whom I acnoulege to haue ofended in no small mesuer, whos mersey and pardon, I do presum most humbly to crave uppon my kneffe from daye, to daye, and that you will votSAFE to ad to your ho^r furderanse and best indever for my acomplishment theyerof; and if yt may be (thorow hur grafuse and wonted Clemenssey) obtayned, I hope by the pour of the all myghty god to make yt a peyer⁵⁹⁵ bothe unto hur highnes and the holl worlde that yt is not extended unto a ungratfull or dishonest man; and I do farder promysse, nay I dar protest that your ho^r will finde that netheyr your fafor unto me, nor your forderanse of my good to be frustrete, if so be yt any resonable corse may be taken for the uphouldinge of my repetasion. other wayse I shall as sone desyer to dye as to live, for I am not in love wth my lyffe, nor would I seke to live were it but for my owne sak, for I have allwayes preferred a levinge dethe, before a dinge lyffe. what estate I have gotten in this my . 16 . yeres serfes, is (I ashour myself) made knowen unto your ho^r, so as yt duth apeyer, my offten coumplaintes of my poverty, and mysfary, was unfained: but may I ever be made so hapey as onse mor to ingoye my libertey; what wellth shall be myn, or what worth is in me, I do desier by all the oblygationes of an honest man, to
dedigate

⁵⁹⁵ Appear.

dedigate to your love and serfes, if yt may plesse you to make me so hapey as to exsepte theyerof. theyer is sumthinge for w^{ch} I desier to speke wth your ho^r when yt shall plesse you to think yt fyt to coummaund me to waite uppon you: in the men tym I will sesse to trubl you any farder, but Continew to praye for your everlastinge hapenes and rest my fellffe duringe liffe.

Your ho^r to be Coumaunded / FARD: GORGES.

Aprill 22 from the gathouse.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r S^r, Robert Ciesfell Knyght prinsepall secretary to hur Magestey. End: 1601 Aprill 22. S^r Fardinando Gorges to my M^r 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 86/11.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO^R: for that the tym duth passe and I understand by my wiff yt plessed your ho^r to delle so nobly wth me as to lete me in part to know what is obgetted agaynst me, for w^{ch} I may deserfe blame. ferst that I delte not so frely as I myght have donn in delyfiringe my cnoulege of my L. of Effexe his profedinges: I beche you to waye the shorttnes of the tym, the difors cares, myfereyes, and aslykfiones, that I was sodenly inwrapped in, w^{ch} myght be sofeseint to cause a man to forgete sumthinge amounst many yt I dide frely delyfer my cnoulege of all when I was demaunded of yt, if yt may plesse you to Consider the bond of love and frinchship all though you did beleve I was willinge to confell what myght pregudish him, the noblenes of your owne natuer I know
will

will excuse me in your hart allbe yt in the severety of your
goufteyes you may condeme me: but I farder heyer that he
hath charged me wth a letter I wrate unto him and perſwa-
fiones I ſhould youſe unto him theyer by to urge him unto
this untimblly and trefonabl enterpryſe as for the Letter I
remember my L: Ad: (uppon ocaſion that the Erell toke
to ſpeke of yt) urged him in the behauſe of the reſt of the
lls to reſoullſe them of the contenſe theyerof wher uppon
he replyed that uppon his ſallvaſion I never wrate unto him
any mateyr tending to trefon: heyer uppon I prayed him
to remembeyr the othe I ſware him unto befor I would
goyne wth him in any thinge, w^{ch} he Lykewayes acnoulage.
the eſecte wherof was, the preſorvaſion of his alegenſe to
the Q. and continuanſe of the publyke peſſe, and theyerfor
yt could not be that I perſwaded him to that w^{ch} by othe
I bound him from, theyer myght paſſe many wordes or
ſpeeches from me to him by waye of argoment or con-
ſaranſe, but to conclude that theyerfor theye wer adviſes
or counſall your ho^r duth know wer a meyer rouge for yt
is aparrant when yt cam to be reſoulſed on what my
counſall was: But my L. myght beleve when he ſaue
me to be theyer and hard my Confefion ferſt rede that
I ondly had diſcovereyd his ſecretes and betrayed him
theyerfor out of his diſlyke of my proſedings myght will-
ingly ſpeke what he thought myght do me hurt. how hevy
a inmutaſion he hath layde uppon me in the opinion of
the worelld, for requitall of my love unto him I heyer
unto my greſſe. but I am ſory and aſhamed that he hath
concluded ſo diſnobly & diſhonarably, yt be cauſe your
ho^r ſhal know as well my begininge wth him as you have
dune

dune my end, as allso for y^t my L: Ad: charged me in your presenfe that his L. had bin my menes to gete me the forte of plymouthe. when I was at the brille the Erell sent to me a gentⁿ wth his letters gevinge me to understand what he had down for me if I lyked if yt & befor I retourned my aunfor or reseved theyer Lls letteres for my couminge into Ingland he sent another advertifinge me to coum over, in this whille he hade dellte wth my deyer frende S^r Conores Clyfford whom he hade ingaged for my faythfull and ashowred love unto him from all otheyr men, this was not fufisent in his confayt but he so provided that I was ferst to speke wth him befor any otheyr of the lls. after I aryfed and understandinge what had passed from my frind in my behallfe I was in honesty bound to make yt good. w^{ch} accordingly I did, after wardes I desyered to carey my sellfe in a indifrent corse, but persevinge his geluse youmor⁵⁹⁶ I saue it not posibile wth out lossinge of him unto hom I had geven my sellfe as for your ho^r the opefison was so aparant betwen you to, as theyer was no posibelyty for me to intrest my sellfe in your ho^r wth out abgouring of him, and so moust have manifested my dishonest youmor, and ficall disposifon. Theyerfor I beche your ho^r not to estem the worse of me for my constent lovinge him that was your enemey.

I vowe to god that I did indevor by what menes I was able the reconsillasion of your ho^r and him. but he anfored me that he would reseve no good from you or by your menes, the truth of this his foulle cann testefey.
theyerfore

⁵⁹⁶ Jealous humor.

theyerfore if yt plesse you to take me to your fassaor
and protexsion that am now coumfortles, as I haue but
on hart so I haue but on worde the w^{ch} I coumend unto
your worthey fellfe to be disposed of as yt shall plesse you
and do offore my fellfe most faythfully and trully at

Your ho^r serfes duringe lyffe /

FARD: GORGES.

from the gathous this 27 of Aprell.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r S^r Robert Ciceffell Knight prinsepall Sec-
retarey to hur Magestey. End: 1601 27 Aprill S^r Ferd: Gorge. 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 182/33.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONARABL: although yt be a thinge agaynst a
worthey natuer to importuen his honorable frindes, yt my
extrem nesesiteyes ar so greate at this presens that I am
forfed, not ondly to strayne the bouenes of vertewe, but to
passe the lymetes of good manores, humbly beching your
honor to excues the on, & by your honarabl meanes (for
in that I depend) to pout a nende unto the other, for (in
fewe wordes) yt is so greater, yⁿ canne wth leffe be indewered,
if I wer hopples of soun present ende, and mor then wth out
shame of my parte canne be spoken of, save to your honor,
whom I ashouer my fellfe, wilbe as helpfull as petyfull
(nowe you knowe yte) I men in obtaining for me hur Mag^{ts}:
Grafues Parden, that I maye ingoye that hapenes, at the
lest, to deye a free man if I may not leve to optayne the
meanes by my felves afexsion, faithfull and trewe serfes, to
indeuer to deserve so greate a grafe of hur highnes, al-
though

though yt wer wth the losse of my dereft blude, and to manefest unto your honor, (which I doupte not but to be able to do, when you plese to votefafe the oppertunety to heyear me), that trewe & unfayned afexfion that your honorable foule canne defier to pofesse of a free and constant natuer that hatteth to protest what hee intendeth not, and whom you have bound unto you as he whom is

Your honeres most to be coumaunded/

FARDE: GORGES.

Maye 2.

Holograph. Add: To the Right hor: S^r: Robert Ciesell Knight Prinsepall Cecretarey to hur Mag^t M^r of the wardes, and of hur Most honorable preve Counsele geve thes. End: 21 May 1601⁵⁹⁷ S^r Fardinand Gorges to my M^r 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 182/69.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO^r. The keper hath bin importunat wth me, for mones for my charges: as longe as I had any thinge leffte I did make satesfaxfion unto him from weke to weke. What my estate is I have ofte tymes aquainted your ho^r I have neyther entertaynment nor anythinge ellst left. what I fhall do or what menes I fhall make to mayntayn my wiffe and children god duth know, spesualy whill I am in this plase. for my frendes not knowinge the termes I stand in ar ferfull to take notes of me lest they should undo them sellfes: my petifion is Theyerfor unto your ho^r: that yt will
pleffe

⁵⁹⁷ The "1601" is in another hand, pasted over; but the year seems probable. and I cannot decide whether it is a contemporary endorsement, as it is

pleffe you the por man may reseve fūm kind of fatesfaxion
such as in your wisdum you shall thinke fyte to yelld him.
and that yt will pleffe you to asorde me such coumfort as
maye refresh (in fūm mesuer) a distressed and mysarabl
wrecke whom if you pleffe you maye youse to your ound
good and ho^r. and to my content and esse, for all though
I cannot shew my fellse ferfely base yt I will aprofe my fellse
thankefull. for I know wher in you myght have doun me
hurte and I fynd wherin you have dune me good. for the
w^{ch} you have bound me to indever to deserfe yt. in the men-
tym you shalle have experenes that I will be unfaynedly at

Your ho^r comand during my lyffe /

From the gathouse the 27 of June.

FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the Right ho^r S^r Robert Ciffell prinsepall Secretary to hur Mag^t geve
theyes. End: 27 Junii 1601. S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 182/99.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO^r. I humbly desyer your ho^r parden for my
importunetey. nesefitey duth imforse ether aboufe good
manores or sevelitey: my mysereyes is best known unto my
fellse for if I wer presently to be discharged I know how
harde yt will be for me to defraye my charge in the house.
as for my frindes thos that ar kinde have no money the rest
wante netheyer excuses or resones to kepe theyer moneyes
in theyer purses: when theyer was hope of my uprisinge, or
liklyhoud that my repetasion or fafor wth my ho^r frendes
myght do them good, yt hade bin no harde matter for me
to

to have ingaged them verey fare (as yt hath bin the coustum of Inglish frendes or sellfe loufores) but now they see no liklyhoud of any such matter, theye ar content to sem both straynege and unwilling: wherfor I humbly beche your honarable confidaraſion heyerof, and that befor I have cauſe to diſpayer, Sum reſoluſion maye be optayned wher unto I ſhall truſte. for my ound part my ſoule was ever free from malyes unto any: and what my oſenſe is god and my conchens duth know: I haue loſt mouch bloud in hur mag^{ts}: ſerfes. and have ſpent my holl tym theyerin as alſo that pore eſtate I hade and all otheyer menes that any wayes I could make. my indever and deſyer in all this was, to have deſerfed better then wotheyeres⁵⁹⁸ but my over weninge afexſion unto my unfortunate frend, hath fruſtreated my hopes theyer in, yt I cannot diſpayer, becauſe I know the frenes of my harte and clerenes of my conchenſe that could never be draune to condeſent to any vellely ſervell courſe, or trecherus prattyſes all though I cannot excuſe this my offens to hur mg^{ty}: I have offred my ſellfe to be diſpoſed of by your ho^r: if you pleaſe to exſepte of yt, you ſhall fynd that I will endeuer to deſerve the gretnes of your fafors dun me. I beche you to know that I am not unſenſable of reſon or ignorant, who cann do me good or evell: and thoſ fafores w^{ch} I have reſefed, I know that they have not bin hindred by your ho^r: at this preſent I have apoynted my Couſen Doddinton⁵⁹⁹ to geve his atendens and humbly to deſyer your ho^r aunſor what reſoluſion

⁵⁹⁸ Others.

High Sheriff of Hampshire, and died in

⁵⁹⁹ Sir William Doddington. He was 1638.

refolufion or hopes you thinke I am to depend uppon:
though for my ound part I cann defyer nothin but a fhort
ende to thes my myefareyes: that will reft if ever I maye
be my fellfe

Your ho^r humbly to be comanded / FARD: GORGES.

from the gat hous this 11th of Julye.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r S^r Robert Ceffell Knyght prinsepall Sec-
retareye to hur Magefty: thes dd. End: 11 July 1601 S^r Ferdinando Gorges
to my M^r 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 180/137.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONORABLE I perceyve by my Coufen Doddinton,
yt hath pleased you to excepte, at that parte of my lettre,
wherby I acknowledge your ho^r to haue bine noe hinderer,
of thofe mercyfull, and honorable fafoores, I have receyved:
wherfor I houlde my felfe bound; to geve a true Interpreta-
tion unto your ho^r; of my meaninge ther in: to the end to
take away all doubt, or caufe of Jealoufy, of any unwilling-
nes in me to attrIBUTE unto you, that w^{ch} your ho^r: by your
favorable menes haue bounde me, to indevore to deferue;
And theyerfore I befeeche you to be out of doubte, that my
meaninge was noe otherwayes; but as you were noe hin-
derer, foe you ar by me, and my freindes, to be acknowledged,
to be the greteft furtherer, and menes of any favore, or
good, that I have eyther receyved, or am in expetacion of.
wherfore for that caufe, and to geve testimonye theyerof I
have defyered foe often, and by foe many meanes, to difpofe
both of my felfe, and my beft indeavores, at your plesur;
and

and only to your honor before any man what foeuer; for unto none haue I foe freely offred my felfe; as to yo^r ho^r: fense these my troubles, w^{ch} is not doune out of any other respete, then out of my desiere, to indevor to the uttermouft of my power, to requite thos faffores, I acknowlege my felfe to have receved from you, and by your menes: and therefore my humble desyre is, that this maye be a fattysfaxion to your ho^r: for that wherin I might forgett my felfe, in my last: beseechinge your ho^r: to have in Confyderation, how easye a matter yt is, for a man plunged in foe many myfferyes, as I am in, to be mistaken in such a matter as that was; wherin my meaninge was (I vowe to god) noe otherwayes, then by this I have acknowlegded yt to be. And therfor I humbly desyer you, to continue your ho^r: fafvor towardses me; unto whom I desyer princepallye under hur Highnes; to be behouldinge unto; for any ease or good, that I am in expectaſion or hope of: the w^{ch} I beseech you to advance, out of your ho^r: disposition; to geve Coumforte to the afflicted, and misarable, levinge my felfe to be disposed of duringe lyfe at

Your ho^r: Coummande / FARD: GORGES.

From the gathous 14 of Julye.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r S^r: Robert Ciffiell Knyght prinſipall ſecretarye to her Mageſty. End: 14 July 1601. S^r Far: Gorges to my M^e:
2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 182/136.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO^R My myferey is foo grete, as I cannot forbere humbly to intrete your ho^r to have confideraſion of yt, and
as

as you have bin hether unto most ho^r in the helpinge and faforinge of me, so you will be plesed to contynew the grettnes of your fafour tourdes me that will souffer my fellfe to dispayer exsepte yt may plese you to aforde me your ho^r coumforte. I protest I have not any menes to be at the charge of on to atend the Corte, and theyerfor what to do or how to do I know not. but onelly to hop that yt will plese your ho^r by your faforable menes to me, that I may be made as hapey as otheres that ar fallty as I am. Wherby I protest you shalle bynd me as absolutly to you as on whom your ho^r maye be most ashoured of

duringe my lyfe / FARD: GORGES.

From the gathous this 7th of Augoust.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r: Sr Robert Ciffell kng: prinsepall Secretary to hur Magesty. End: 1601 Aug. 7. Sr Fardinando Gorges to my Mr.
1 p.

(Cecil Papers 183/44.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO^R: I haue refeved cnowlege by so good menes of your ho^r and most efettuell delinge wth hur Ma^{te}. for me, and in my behallfe, as I fynde my fellfe bound to acknowlege the grettnes of your fafore by all the menes I shall ever be able and in the mentym do yelde you all posible thanks for yt: most humbly be~ching⁶⁰⁰ you to fenesh that good worke you have be goune wher by you have bound both me and myn, to do you all ho^r: and servise that shall ever be in
our

⁶⁰⁰ Befeeching.

our poures: And feinge yt hath plesed hur Matie: to extend hur grafe and mersey thus far: so yt maye lykewayes pleffe hur not to sofor me to deye a thoufen dethes in bondige and myfarey but that thorow the exfalsensey of the sam mersey I maye relishe the swetenes theyerof, nothings douptinge (by the helpe and grafe of the eternall god) but, I shalbe able to geve testymony to the worelld, that yt is not extended to a ungratfull or extrem unworthey parson. I am not the ferst that haue offended, though yt be the ferst offense I ever coummytted justly to be layde unto my charge, how forey I am and how mouch I loth my self fore it the heavenly god duth know whos eternall blesinge and everlastinge protexsion be uppon you and youres for the Coumfort I have reseved by your menes.

Your ho' for ever to be coumanded /

FARD: GORGES.

The gat house this 24 of Septembere.

Holograph. Add: To the Right honorabl Sr Robert Cieffell Knight Prinsipall Secretary to hur Matie geve theyes. End: 24 Sept 1601. Sir Fardinando Gorges to my M^r 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 89/28.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONARABL I have bin geven to understand by Sr Thomas Gorges the contynuanse of your honorabl and kinde fafor tourdes me, the which as yt duth profede from a most exscelent and nobl natuer, out of Comeferasion and petey of a most myfarable and unfortenat man soe is yt my dutye to take notes of yt, and by all menes to indever to desorve

deforve the grettnes theyer of, as far forth as shall lye in foe weke a pouer as is in me, in the mentym I cannot chous but to geve your ho^r: all posibl thanks for yt and most humbly to beche you to pout a nend to your worthey worke that as well in my bodey as my foule I may make manyfest the oblygasion wher in I accnoulege my fellf to stand bound to your honor for the grettnes of thos fafores I haue re-seved by your menes, in the mentym I will contynually praye to the etternall god, to make you as hapey as your harte cane desyer, and for ever contynewe

Your honores most humbly to be coumanded /

FARD: GORGES.

from the gathous 29 of October.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r: S^r Robert Ceiffell Knyght prinsssepall
Cecetry to hur Ma^{te} geve thes. End: 1601 October 29 S^r Fard. Gorges to
my M^r. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 89/74.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONARABL, yt is to no ende for me to goe about to lessen or diminesh the grete and henuesnes of my offense unto hur Ma^{te}, seing it is foe apparant unto all at whos grafues handes I haue re-seved foe greate and infenet fafour in pardinng of my lyffe and prefeveringe of my blude from beinge taynted, as theyer is no fervis or indever of myn wilbe able to deserve y^e gretenes theyerof. Not wth standinge I humbly desyer that this Confiderasion may be had (being I protest to the heavenly god but the truth) that yt was loufe unto my frind, and no malies unto any erthly creatuer

creatuer that caused me to do as I did, wher into I was fallen yer I was aware, but beinge in I wold willingly (I moust confes) haue rought his fredum that was the cause theyerof, to gether wth my ound fasty yf it hade bin posibl. as for my aleganse to to my sofarant, or honest afexsion to my contrey, lete my tyme and lyfe past make aunfor for me, and for this axsion that hath caused my reuin (under corexsion) as I was not alone, who was hee that was not merly oposed to the Erell that myght not have bin drauen to goyne wth him as I did, and in truth I will desyer to leue no longer then that I ber a loyall hart unto hur Ma^{te} and my Coun- trey, but in my to mouch loufe to my unfortenat frind I know I gave iuste occasion for your hon^r to exsepte against me, and to laye uppon me your disfafor, or to drawe from me your affexsion, but seing by experience I am tought my error theyerin and am both asfhamed and harteley forey that ever your hon^r: hade foe iuste cause of exsepcion or dislyke unto me, I humbly and earnestly intret your honor to pout all past out of your memorey, send to loake wth a neye of love and petey uppon me, whom you have bothe conquered and gayned in all trew and faythfull seruis to you for ever, and seinge that your ound ho^r: and charetey geves me ashourans that you will not regete⁶⁰¹ me because I am in affixcion (for that it is a chese efecte of Cristen pietey to menester fuker to a man in nesesitey) yt maketh me the boulder to remember you of the mysarabl estate and affixsion wherin I leue: humbly beceching your honor, to be amenes to worke hur Ma^{tes} coumpascnet harte as in grafe and mersey she hath bine plesed to safe my lyfe, so

now

⁶⁰¹ Rejeſt.

now she will votesafe to pout a nend to my Calametey by gevinge libertey and fredum, that I maye by the hafford of that lyffe or losse of my dereft blud indever to ranfoum my mysse dede, as allfoe yt I may theyerby aprove to the wordl how mouch I houlde my sellfe bound to your honor for thos faffores and benefyctes I and myn have refeved by your ho^r menes, unto whom if I coulde as frelye speake wthout jelosy of feking to serve my ound turn as I am earnestly desyrues, you wold hapely fynde reson to saye I haue nether any dishonest natuer nor am a unworthey man but I dar urge your honnor to no mor then your wisdoum shall think fyt, but will allwayes be redey and most ashoured during lyfe.

Your honnores to be Coumanded /

FARD : GORGES.

The 5 of November from the gathous.

Holograph. Add: To the Right honrabl S^r Robert Ceiffell knight Prinssepall Secretarey to hur Ma^{te} geve thes. End: 1601 November 5 S^r. Fardinando Gorges to my m^r from the Gatehowse. 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 183/108.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONAR^t, I understand by my unkell S^r Thomas Gorges howe far forth it hath plesed him (by my often and earnest solisitation and his carfull and kinde desier to have it foo) to ingage bothe his and my love and servies to you in particolor, in retourn of thos hon^r, safoures and kindenes we have refeved by your meanes. Theyerfor resoullving wth my sellfe to make good all what so ever he hath promisd in
my

my behallfe; I do ashouer my sellfe; so fare forth as you have votfased to exsepte theyer of, to reseve a fafforable aunfor by your menes, to this my humbell petifion, nothings doutinge (if I be not mouch deseved) but that theyer resteth suficent pouer to satisfye my holl demand, or at leste, the gretest part ther of, the rather for that otheres of the Hs^p have allwayes promysed me undotedly to farder all that lies in theyer poueres, accnouleging I have deserved no lesse, if I may find theyer nobell dedes anforabl to theyer kind and honarabl wordes, I shall thinke my sellfe the hapier by so mouch: As conferninge the restitution of my plasse spoken of in my petifion, it was the Hs letteres that did disposses me theyer of at the ferst, when I offended, and seeinge hur Mag^t; hath so frely and grasusly pardened me, I knowe no reson but they have still the sam vertewe to reposses me theyerof agayne, espeesually if theyer shall be any nesesity, to imploye the saythfull serfice of a noneft man: I will forbere to truble your ho^r: aney farder in this, and do refer my sellfe to your love and wissedum, and I would be glade (if the tim besite for it) to speke my pore opinion of the present estate of the time, inas mouch as I am theyer unto insited by natuer, love, and duty for it is to aparrant to the worell, the meserey and calamety that begenes to aproch, and the mor spase is lost the gretter will the afflixsiones be when it do falle, for you shall find all distempred, and the holle bodey out of frame, and everey sensabl member ther of do begin to trembell, Therfor, souffor not your sellfe to be surprised in securety, but provide for what may infewe, whill you have menes, and pouer: I do knowe your wissdum, and vertew, the which
hath

hath made me to presueme to straye this fare be yonde my fellfe: parden me theyerfore, I houbly beche you if I have coumitted any fallt and lete it be imputed to love not presumption.

I pourpas to be this night at Sher if your hon^r: plesse to coumaund me to attend uppon you I will fenesh the rest that I have to saye by worde of mouth, and will continew to be

Your honores most ashoured to be Coumaunded /

FARD: GORGES.

Holograph. Add: To the Right ho^r: S^r Robert Ciesell knight Princepal Secretary to hur Mag^{ty} geve thes. End: S^r Ferdinando Gorges. 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 181/94.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONARABL: Whill I leve under this greate cloud of hur Ma^{ts}. hevey indignafion I am but as a shadowe and no substanes or rather a deadde man bothe to mysellfe and to the worelld, my soull levinge in torment to see how I have trubled vexfed and charged my frindes, brought into extremetey my fellfe my wiffe and children, and (which of all wotheres is most greves unto me) I have (thorow my myfs demenuer) losfe that bright lite of hur Ma^{ts}: grafues fafour wth all hope of aney preefent good in my countreye, being bereved of all manor of meanes safe my pore indever the which shall never be wantinge to recover the on or to deserve of the wother, but of all thos I am most bound unto under god and hur Ma^{ty}: I mouft and will for ever acknowlege your honor the ferft and Cheffest, and I beche
your

your ho^r: to exsepte of this my confesion as not profeding of a basse or fervell youmor as if I ondy ment by observinge the tyme to serve my ounde tourne, but to exsepte of yt as profedinge from a honest faythfull and free harte, how soun ever the bodey be captyfed, nor shall any fortuen ever make me to goo against my sellfe in this, and when soun ever by your ho^r fafor and meanes (for wthout it I will nether seke or hope for any thing) I shalbe free and able, your ho^r: shall find you never bestoued your love uppon aneye man that shall mor honestly or mor faythfully indever the deserving of yt. Yt wer beyond the boundes of modestye or discreffion to brage of my sellfe or to take uppon me mor then is knowen to be in otheres, but my desier is, to spende yt letell remnant of my liffe that remainneth, in hur Ma^{ts}. and my Countreyes servise, to y^e yende that I maye preasently indever, the ransoming of my error to bothe as allfoo, the better to geve fatesfaxsion and ashouranes to your honor, that I desier and resoullfe to accomplish my wordes wth my deedes, but if it be not possible, to remove hur Ma^{ts} hevey indignesion from me, whereby I shalbe thought unworthey hur grafues imployment, but shalbe forsed to seke my fortuen out of my natyfe Countrey, I most humbly beche your honor to be my meenes, yt may be acompleshed wth what expedition shall (in your wisdoun) be thoght conveneant, I have presumed to intret my unkell S^r Thomas Gorges and have apoynted my wiffe at tymes convenient, to geve atendanes uppon your ho^r: that you may have occasion to remember the myfarabl estat I leve in, being over chargabell to my frendes, and in forsed to see my wiffe and children redey
to

to starfe, and no menes lefte to requite the on, or to releve
the other, and what fortuen foun ever I roun or wher
foun ever I fhالبة yt fhالبة in your honor to difpofe of
me as of him that is unfainedly

Your honores duringe liffe /

FARD: GORGES.

From CHARLTON the 23th of Janeuarey.

Holograph. Add: To the Right honorabl S^r Robert Ceiffell knight Prinsepall
Secretarey to hur Magestey and of hur Mofte honarabl preve Counfell geve
theyes. End. 23 Jan. 1601. S^r Far: Gorges to my M^r. 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 92/164.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

I WOULD haue bin glad (Right honarabl) to have geven
my atendancs uppon your honor many times befor this
but that I durst not prefume fo fare wthout knoulege of
your good likinge in that be hallf but do ernestly defier
yt if yt may ftande wth your honores plesuer to afforde me
that faffor, as well for that I am nowe lefte alone to be my
ounde folifetor as allfo that I longe to manefest in perti-
color & at large, my thankfull nattuer, & trew & faith-
full refpete to your honor for the coumfortes & fafores
I haue refeved from you & by your meanes wherfore I
houlde myfelffe bounde duringe life as he that is

Your honores most afhoured /

FARD: GORGES.

Aprill 28.

Holograph. Add: To the Right hon^r: S^r Robert Cecyll knight Princepall cecre-
tary to hur Mag^{te} and M^r of the wardes geve thes. End. Aprill 26 1602.
S^r Far: Gorge to my M^r. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 105/62.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HON^R: heyer is dayly Expetafion of the arifall of a Careake taken by the holenderes in the Efte Indes, laden wth Chynenn coumodetes as gould rawe fillke cloth of goulde mouske and fouch like: if your lors: plles to thinke fite to delle wth them for any thinge they have, you may if it fhall pllefe you, make youfe of my nam and ferfes, as of any Cretuer your H^r: have, that is moft devoted unto you. nether fhall you nede, to be farder fenne theyer in then your fellfe pllefe: and loke what your plefuer is I defier maye be fent wth all convenient fpede that may be, and to the end I maye be the better able to perform what I wold I humbly beeche you to votefafe me the faffor to fpeke to my Lorde Treforer that fuch mones as is dewe unto me maye be delyfered to thos I have geven order for the refayte theyer of fo reftinge humbly your lo: at coumaund duringe Liffe

from PLIMOUTH 21 of May 1604.

FARD: GORGES.

Addreffed: To the Right ho^r my verrey good lord The lo: Cecyll prinfcip. Sec-
retaree to his Mageftey Endorfed: 21 May 1604 S^r Ferdinando Gorges to
my Lord from Plymmuth. Holog. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 106/140.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HON^R: Lefte I might feme to forgete my fellfe in neglettinge of thos my hon^r: frendes to whom by many benefites and faffores refeved, I ftand bounde duringe my liffe.

liffe, I coulde no longer forbere humbly to remember my
deutey to your h. and to recoummend to you by this berer
Cañ Barley my leftenantte a pore and simpell token of my
love and ferfes the which I wishe were as riche as fayer
humbly desiringe your h. to exspte theyrof all though it be
but a mite, it yt profedeth from a fre harte and a mind
desirues by all menes to apere himselffe during his life

Your h. unfainedly to be coumanded /

FARD: GORGES.

from PLIMOUTH the 28 of Augoust 1604.

Add: To the Right hon^r: y^e Lo: Cecill Princepall Secretarey to his Mag^{ts} geve
theyes. End: 28 Augoust 1604 S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my Lo. from Ply-
mouth. Holog. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 110/160.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONO^{ll}: My humble dutie remembred: Here hath
bene, and is still a reporte of certeine troopes of Spanyardes,
that purpose to passe alonge the coaste for to goe into the
Lowe Countries. If they shall touch in these partes, I doe
humblie desire to knowe his Ma^{ts} pleasure what course we
shall houlde, both for his highnes Ho^r., and alsoe his se-
curetie against any sinister practise: for your wisdome doth
knowe it is not fitt to stand at the devotion of a freinde,
when a Monarchie shalbe in question. Further it shall much
satisfie the People of these partes, who doe nowe censure
diverslie of these rumors, to heare, and see order taken for
theire secureties, who doe not sticke in a manner to say,
that they are nowe left to the devotion of their Enemies.

Wherefore,

Wherfore, if foe be, it may seeme necessarie in his Ma^{ty}: wisdome, I thinke it were not inconvenient that commaundement were given to the severall Captaynes to take notice of the defects of their Companies, and to see them furnished out of hand, as alsoe some private caveat to those of the better sorte to be reddie on all occasions to followe such direccons, as shalbe geaven them from his Highnes, and your Lo:, a matter that will give to all much satisfaccon. Another thinge I thought necessary to informe your Lo: of, is the daily outrages, and enormeties, that are comitted uppon the Coaste by Pyrates of our owne Nation under colour, and pretext of Comission of those of the Lowe Countries, who doe by their misdemeanour, and dishonest behaviour much scandalize our Nation, and impeache the trade of honest Marchaunts. The which courses I doubt nothing, but might easilie be prevented if Authoretie were given to any that knewe what to doe, and would be carefull of their duties in that behalfe, and lycensed to exercise their best meanes for the prevencon therof. And the remedie would prove the easier, if advtisement were given to those of the Lowe Countries not to permitt any Comission to be geaven them of our Nation to attempt any thinge on this side of the Isles of the Traceres,⁶⁰² and Canares. For beyonde those Isles it is not knowne that his Ma^{ty}: hath League or alliance, neither may his subjects trade with any of those people, but at their hazard, and extreame adventure, and therefore those the lesse to be excepted againste for their enterprices

⁶⁰² Terceira, one of the Azores. The "the Terceiras" from this, one of its group is often called by old writers principal islands.

terprices. Thus craving pardon for my bouldnes, and humbly referring the whole to your Lo: hono^{ll}: confideraçon, and my selfe to be disposed of for ever by your Honor as

Your Lo: most humbly to be comāunded /

FARD: GORGES.

From his Ma^{ts}: Forte by PLYMOUTH the 18th of May 1605.

Add: To the Right hono^{ll}: my very good Lord the Earle of Salisbury Principall Secretarie to his Ma^{tie}: give these. End: 18 May 1605 S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my Lord. from PLYMMOUTH. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 111/29.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HON^{LL}: My humble dutie remembred This present daye here is arived a small Barke of this Towne, who makes reporte that he mett this morning off the harbour eight sayle, wherof there were five Lubickers, two Carvells, and one Dunkerker, laden with Spanyardes to goe for the Lowe Countries, wherby it seemeth that the Fleete expected is by this last storme, and fogge seperated. But howsoever your Lo: shall heare that his Ma^{ts}: fervauntes in theise partes will diligently attende the meanes to make appeare theire honest cares and dutifull indeavour according to the direcçons lately receaved from theire Lo^{ps}: the which hath much fetled and greatly contented the mindes of such, as before doubted what to doe in that behalfe, as shall more appeare to your Lo: as occasion shall require. It is further reported by the same man, that at Naples there were eight thousand in a reddines to march over Lande. Soe at this
present

present I humbly recomēde your Lo: to the proteccon of
the Almighty remayning for ever

Your Lo: most humbly to be comāunded /

FARD : GORGES.

From his Mat^s: Forte by PLYMOUTH this 2th of June 1605.

Add: To the Right Hono^l: my very good Lord the Earle of Salisbury prince-
pall Secretary to his Mat^{ie}. End: 1605 Iune 2. S^r fardinando Gorges to my
Lord from Plymmouth. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 111/50.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HON^{LL}: This present daye here arived a small Car-
vill sent for Advise from Lisbourn, wherof was Capⁿ: one
Joseph de Mena, to inquire what was become of Pedre
Sebeues and his Fleete conteyninge eight sayle of shippes,
and two Carvells, wherin were 1200 souldiers, and many of
those, men of note, and greate service, wherof the Admirall
was a shippe of London, the Viceadmirall a Scotishman,
and the rest Easterlinges. He desired to have a Certificate
of his being here, and soe in the space of two houres he
departed againe to goe to Dartmouth, and soe to followe his
direcons, being not hable to make any report of my Lo:
Admirall, or any of his Company nor any other newes, but
of nyne sayle of great shippes departed for the East Indies,
and the death of Don John de Aguila, of all which I
thought fitt to give advertisement to your Lo: and herby
humbly to remember my dutie as one that will ever reste

Your Lo: most humbly to be comāunded /

FARD : GORGES.

From his Mat^s Forte by PLYMOUTH the 10th of June 1605.

Add: To the Right Hono^l: my very good Lord the Earle of Salisbury. End:
10 June 1605. Sir fardinando Gorges to my Lord. 1 p.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 109/124.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HON^{LL} My humble dutie remembred. Here arived this weeke a man of warre of Holland fett out by certeine Marchaunts of Amsterdam, whose Cap^{ns} name was Jope, and having lyen in the fownde some two dayes he understoode of a Dunkerker that rode in Cattwater, and being perswaded by certeine of his Company that she was riche, they first made him drunken and then in that humor drewe him to give an attempt uppon hir, and foe the 15th of this monethe at two of the clocke in the morning he past himselfe by our guardes in two boats full of men, who were kept foe close, as not above foure could be discovered to be in each boate, and being called unto by the sentinell aunswered they were of How, and that they came out of the sea from fishing. But as soone as they had rowen up the harbour as highe as the shippe laye, they presently bourded hir without any manner of resistaunce or noife making, and finding it not safe to carrie awaye the shippe, they seised on the M^r, and rifled certeine com̃odities (but of noe great value) and foe retourned againe making replie to the sentinell that called to them, that they came from How. But word being brought unto me by bargemen that were at that tyme to unlade corne out of a flemishe shippe therby, what had hapned. I used my best witt, and meanes how to recover the poore men theire goodes, and libertie againe, and the better to bringe it to passe I imployed M^r Mathew of this Towne, whose credit I knewe to be most powerfull amonge the people of those provinces, who foe far forth prevailed
by

by entreaties, and threats, as in the end they sett at libertie the prisoner, and restored what could be recovered from that unruly Company, althoughe they were at this tyme two leages in the sea under faile. But nowe the winde is come to the Southwardes, and they forced into Cawson Bay, foe as I doubt nothing but to be able by God's grace to take foe good a course therin for the satisfac̃con of all parts, as neyther his Ma^{tie} nor theire Lordshipps shal neede to take any further notice of it. But thus much notwithstanding I thought fitt to advertise to prevent any misse reporte, or false suggestion that might be made, as alsoe that the truth might at first appeare, to the end your Lo: may the better conceive of what shalbe delivered to the contrary. Thus beseeching God to bleffe, and prosper your Lordshippe, remaying for ever

Your Lo^{ps} in all humilitie to be comāunded /

FARD: GORGES.

from his Ma^{ties}: Forte by PLYMOUTH the 16th of Jann: 1605.

Add: To the Right hono^{ll}: my verie good Lord the Earle of Salisbury. End:
16 Jane 1605. Sr Ferdinando Gorges to my Lord. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 190/46.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONO^{ll}: My humble dutie remembred. Your L^{ps} favourable acceptac̃on of my last hath imboldened me at this present to recomēd unto your grave and hon^{ll}: considerac̃on, these inclosed notes; of what consequence they are, your wisedome will eftsoone perceave. And, it is, questionles (to reforme abuses, and errors of the Lawe, crept in by tyme,

tyme, and occasyon,) noe lesse necessarie, then the enacting of newe. But if my dutifull indevoure, and honest intent in this shalbe acceptable, I will herafter (God giving me leave) perticularly sett downe, either by writing, or otherwise, as I shalbe comāunded, the meanes, howe by experience I finde it is most necessarie the Lawe in that case ought to be executed for avoiding all partialitie, and private respect, from whence shal arise the publicke utilitie to the comon wealth, and generall content of all, as alsoe his Ma^{ts}: service the more effectuellie, and easelie performed: besides your L^p., if you vouchsafe to accept therof, shall reape the meanes to pleasure some your particular freindes, his highnes servaunts, and receive an acknowledgm^t for your favourable kindnes: In this, if your L^p: shall marveile why I doe not rather addresse my advertisement to such noble persons of his Ma^{ts}: Councell that have professed the exercise, and use of armes, then to your L^p: Lett it suffice (I beseech you) that I conceive I knowe none more fitt in respect of your place, and neerenes to his Ma^{tie}: then your self: and alsoe I finde that I am bownde (for manie favours done to me by your L^p:) to studie by all waies, and meanes, to approve my selfe a thaunkfull receauer of them, and continuallie will earnestlie praie to the eternall God to blesse and prosper you, to whome I will continewe my selfe most faythfullie

Your L^{ps}: humblie to be Comāunded / FARD: GORGES.

From his Mats Forte by PLYMOUTH the 24 of February, 1605.

Add: To the Right hon^l: my verie good Lord the Earle of Salisbury at the Courte give theise. End: 24 Februar. 1605. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my Lord. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 116/39.)

DEPUTY MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH TO THE EARL OF
SALISBURY.

RIGHTE HONO^{BLE}: our humble dutyes remembred. It
 hath pleased o^r very good Lorde, the Lo: Cheife Justice of
 Englande out of an Honorable disposi^{ti}on to recomende
 unto us an enterprice for establisht^{te} of a Planta^{ti}on in the
 parts of America; whereunto we weare drawn to assent
 (uppon hope to obtayne suche free and reasonable Condi^{ti}ons
 as had in former tymes ben graunted, by her late Ma^{tye} of
 famous memorye, to certeine particuler Gent: But sithence,
 it appeares, that it hath ben thoughte more Convenyent
 (for respects beste knowne to yo^r Lo^{pp};) to assigne us to be
 dyrected (under his Ma^{tye};) by a Councell of dyvers, some
 very worthie and wo^{rple}: persons, othe^{rs}, of the same rancke
 and quallitie o^rselves are, the greatest parte, strangers to
 us & o^r proceedings, w^{ch} neverthelesse, being donne wth yo^r
 Lo: prevetye, we doubt not of anie inconvenyence or
 discomoditye w^{ch} maie growe thereby; and therefore doe
 whollye referre o^rselves to yo^r Hono^{ble}: Care over us. And
 for o^r further desires to yo^r Lo^{pp}: we leaue to be more
 largely related by Cap^{tn} Love the bearer hereof whome we
 haue purposely sent upp to that ende, and (amongeste the
 reste, to become an humble suto^r, to yo^r Lo^{pp}. that it woulde
 please you to Vouchsafe us yo^r favorable protection and
 helpe, as one in whome, we in this behalf, as in all other
 things (nexte unto his Ma^{tye}) doe desire to make o^r cheefe
 dependencye, and to be assisted by yo^r self wth suche other
 Hono^{ble}: & worthie persons as in your wisdome shalbe
 thought

thought fitt, amongeste whome we Cannot but remember the Lord Cheefe Justice wth o^r humble thanks for his good affection towards us in this behalf. And for that we have had many testimonyes & apparances of yo^r Lo^rpps love & favo^r towards us herein, we are bold at this present to beseeche the Contynewance thereof, and haue promised wth o^rselves not to proceede further wthout yt, whollye relyinge uppon yo^r favo^r & wisdome, to be disposed of, both in bodye and goods, so farre forthe, as you shalbe pleased to Comaund. And in the meane tyme we will contynewallye praie for all Hono^r and happines to you and yo^{rs}, humbly cravinge pardon for our overboldnes in beinge thus trowblefome to yo^r good Lo^rpp^e: to whome we doe reste in all dutiefull service.

Yo^r Lo: moste humblie to Comaund/

WALTERE MATHEWE,⁶⁰³

deputie maior and his bretherin.

From PLYMOUTH this 10th of Maye 1606.

Holograph. Add: To the Right honorable my verie good Lord the Earle of Salisbury. End: 10 May 1606. Maio^r of Plymmouth to my Lord. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 116/40.)

' SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONORABLE: My humble dutie remembred:
Thorough the mocon att firste of some particuler persons,
and

⁶⁰³ Walter Mathews succeeded Sir Richard Hawkins in the office of Mayor in 1604. He had been the servant of Sir Hawkins, and his wife had also been the servant of Lady Hawkins. At a banquet Lady Hawkins refused to sit at the table

and weel affected of these partes in this Idle tyme to bring to passe somethinge worthie his Ma^{ts} gracious acceptaⁿce. It hath pleased my Lo: Cheife Justice⁶⁰⁴ out of an ho: disposition to advaunce their proceedings and (as yt seemes) to be a meanes for the obteyninge of his highnes free leave and good liking as by his letters Pattents yt doth att lardg appere to severall parties graunted. But some things there are whereunto they finde them selves tied w^{ch} hath exceedingly cooled the heate of their affections that att firste did make profer of their adventures. As namelie they are upon all occasions to expecte their directions. for their govern^t from certeyne whome his ma^{tie} hath elected to be of his Councell for those afaires in and about the Cittie, and although many of them exceeding worthie, yet diuers Cittizens both of London, Bristow, and Exon well knowne to have noe manner of understanding what belongeth thereunto more then ordinarie. Besides for them heere to be tyed upon all occasions to Poste yt to London, is a matter foe tedious and chargeable as they are wholie distasted wth the ymagination thereof, and as I perceave they have written to his Lo: they utterlie refuse to proceede any farther, unles they may be foe happie, as to obteyne yo^r Lo: ho: favo^r to joyne wth his Lo: for the delivering of them from foe heavie a yoake as they ymagine this in tyme wilbe unto them. And in deed when yt was once bruted that foe
many

table below the Mayorefs, and a scuffle between them ensued, which was ended by Lady Hawkins giving the Mayorefs a box on the ear. This created a scandal; and as his wife was clearly in the

wrong, Sir Richard made the town amends by giving it a house on Market Street. *Vide The History of Plymouth*, by R. N. Worth, Plymouth, 1873, p. 133.

⁶⁰⁴ Sir John Popham.

many Cittizens and Tradefmen weare made councello^{rs} to his highnes for the disposing of theire afaires that on theire private chardg undertooke the enterprize, all the gentlemen that before weare willing to be lardge adventurers presentlie wthdrew themsealves and by noe meanes will have to doe therein. But now the pore Townesmen of Plymouth relyeing themsealves upon yo^r lo: ho: favor doe humblie ymploare your protection hoping by yo^r: ho: meanes to finde releefe or otherwise they doe dispaye of any future good hereof to enfew unto them. And undoubtedlie (yf my judgm^t doe not much deceave me) yt wilbe a matter of that momente and consequence both unto his ma^{tie} and our whole nation as yt weare greate pittie yt should be suffered to fall to the ground. Neyther can theare be any thinge more ho: then free Condiçons to be graunted to such as willinglie doe hazard themsealves and theire estats wthout farther chardg to his highnes, to lease him of soe lardge Territories as they promyse to doe. And for ought I perceave theire desier (more then is graunted already) is principally that they may be assigned to your Lo: and my Lorde Cheife Justice wth such other ho: and worthie persons as you shall thinke fitt to take unto you for your more easie execution of his highnes pleasuer as occaçon from tyme to tyme shall require, and that there may be certeyne Comyffiones authorized and by you chosen out of these partes that may att all tymes be presente redelie to receave and execute those directions to the ease of all heere wthout theire farther troble or chardge, and that they may be exempted from having to doo wth those Citizens and townesmen nomynated in his Ma^{ties} graunte, whome they fee
are

are like heereafter to prevayle agaynste them in that they have alreadie gotten the goverm^t over them, foe as they can looke for noe manner of libertie more then shall stand wth theire likinge, or forte to the profitt of theire severall Corpora^çons, and therefore they are become humble futers to yo^r good Lo: for obteyninge theire release in that behaulfe. And that being graunted yt is doubtles that many worthie and brave spirites will easilie be drawen to Ingage themselves in this Designe, and the rather yf they finde they may walke under the shelter and by the direction of foe ho: a person as yo^r sealf, w^{ch} I proteste I speake not to flatter, as I doubte not but the sequell will manyfestlie men^çon, and weare my meanes answerable I would say more then now I can, but as yt is I will for ever acknowledg yt your Lo: and my sealf to be disposed of during lief as,

Your Lo: in all services most humblie to be co^mmaunded /

FARD: GORGES.

From the forte bie PLIMOTH the 10th of Maie 1606.

Add: To the righte Ho: my verie good Lo: the Earle of Salisburie. End:
10 May 1606. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my Lord. 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 115/88.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HO^{BLE} My humble dutie remembred, our great expecta^çon for the discoverie of our newe fownd Countrey hath unhappelie bin Croft by our good frinds the spaniards
whoe

whoe thinking much that wee should inhearit the libertie of Land or Seas, hath seased uppon our shipp and men (as by the relation here inclosed yt may more att leardg appeere) w^{ch} by storme and tempest weere put in to Burdeox in Fraunce in one of the spanishe ships, against whome wee must humbly intreate yo^r lo^{ips} favoure to farther our proceedings for recoverie of satisfaction not onelie for our shipp & goods, but our henderances and damages, that they may knowe wee are not so flavishe that wee will indure their insolences, nor so base that wee will not seeke a iuste revenge, yf they right us not according to reason & equetie.

I referr yt to your wisdome to conceive to what height there pride and insolencie will growe when this peace (reported to be in handling betweene them and the holanders) they shall find themselves to be (as yt weare) m^r of the Seas, or is yt to be beleved that when they shall find all power to be in their owne hands they will be then more iuste and foverable unto us, then now they are, when they doe knowe yt is in our owne stringhts to right our selves whensoever his ma^{tie} will vouchsafe but to give leve to the parties greved to seeke yt, herein my thinkes I could speake something to yo^r lo^{ipp} consarning their intended peace wth the holanders / but I dare not bee too troblesome onelie I have some reason to perswad me, that yt is more probable the Rumoure is trewe, then that yt should not be soe, and my reasons are prencipally these, first the confideracons of their estates not able longer to continewe the warres seeing themselves as yt weere forsaken of all / secondlie finding their spiretts to be vanquished by their enemies, in asmuch as he hath dejected the courage of their Armie being compounded of mercina-
ries,

ries, and theirfor hoples of more then their monthlie payes, yt being not in their meaines to renewe their minds in giving of honor or rewards (the spures of vertues and the life of greate interprices) And lastlie finding in their own harts themselves att the hiest picthe of their hopes for these forsaied causes and confideraçons will (I fear me) too sodenlie inforce them to laye hould uppon the present oportunitie, while they find they may obtayne what Condiçons they can resonably demaund, w^{ch} yf they be permitted to perfever therein, how easilie is yt to be proved that our miseryes are not farr of, seeing our selves dismembred of foe notable a lymme, but in this I dare not wade farther before I may receive pardon for my presumption for entermedling in busines foe farr above my capacitie, although as yo^r lo^{pp} doeth knowe I have had some experience of the afares of tymes past, but what I have else to saye in this behalfe I will be redy (when yo^r lo^{pp} shall comaund) to give my attendance bothe to satisfie what may be objected, and to shewe my reasons for any thing I shall prepound, in the meane while craving pardon for this, I humbly comend yo^r lo^{pp} to the protexion of the almightie, continewing in all servis

Yo^r lo^{ps} humbly to be comaunded /

FARD: GORGES.

februarie 4th 1606.

Add: To the Right ho:^{ble} my very good lord the Earle of Salsbury give this:

End: 4 Feb. 1606 Sir Fer. Gorge to my Lord. 2 pp.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 115/89.)

ENCLOSURE IN LETTER OF GORGES TO CECIL OF FEB. 4, 1606-7.

THE Relation of Daniell Tucker merchant beinge implied by divers Advententerars of Plimmothe to goe as Facttor of a shipe bownd for Floredae wrytten by him selfe the 4th of February ā 1606.

The wind beinge faer we departed from Plimmothe the 12th of Auguste, w^{ch} winde contened tell we came wthin 80 Leages of the westward Ilandes, and then the wind westerd wth a grete storme, where by we waer put for the Iland of Maderes,⁶⁰⁵ where we wattered wth the Governors Licence one the 4th of Septtember and there staed tell the 8th daye /

And from thens we stude ovr Corse for the coste of Floredae, but after we had saled some 100 Leges we waer be calmed 14 daes together, and by Refon of the extrem hete ovr freshe water scanted uppon us so as we waer forsed to the outter moste Ilandes of the weste Inges.

And about the Laste of october we a Rived at a niland called Margellanta,⁶⁰⁶ wher we wattered and Refresshed ovr selves wth fuche Frutes as the Iland did afford, and staed ther 4 daes, from thens we wente by a Niland called Domeneca, wher a Spanishe Frier came a bord ovr shipe, in a small Cannoe wth 5 Ingens w^{ch} brought Frutes wth them. The saed Frier desired us for Godes Caes to geve him passage for some parte of Cristendom, whos shipe had bene
Caste

⁶⁰⁵ The island of Madeira.

⁶⁰⁶ The island of Mariegalante, in the Caribbean Sea, northward of, and but

a short distance from, Santo Domingo. It is in the possession of France.

Caste a waye some 13 monthes befoer and all his Company drownned and flaned by the Engians,⁶⁰⁷ only hee faved a Live.

Whiche faed Frier we tooke into owr shipe, and some 4 daes after we sete him a shoer at the Estward of Portarecca,⁶⁰⁸ and ther delevered him unto two Spanniardes w^{ch} waer herdes men of Cattell, wher we staed two daes, and goinge from thens owr shipe Came a grownd, but wth out anye harme we got Cleer, and so stude owr Corse to Floredae.

And beinge at see in the hithe of 26 degrees & some 60 Leges from the shoer we mete wth a Flete of a 11 shipes (all Spanniardes) merchant men, on the 10th of November in the morninge we waer in the middeste of the faed Flete, we standinge owr Corse, one of the windward shipes shot at us, wher uppone we wente to the Admerall, and Comminge under his Lee, the Admerall shot at us two shot, and came a borde of owr shipe in most veyholent manner, and dispoeste us of owr shipe and goodes, and sent us a bowrde of his one shipe, and the nexte day parted us some 4 & 5 in a shipe and put Spanniardes a borde of owr shipe and stud for Sevell in Spane But by Refen the Admerall had a grete Lecke the Reste of the shipes Leste him onlye wth owr shipe and soe parted from the Admerall, and 6 daes after we Losse all owr Flete in a grete storme wth moer winde then we Cowlde well stere afoer, and by Refen of exstreme fowle wether and havinge a bad Pilote who Cowld not tacke his Juste hithe we Continued at see two monthes in grete meserie

⁶⁰⁷ Indians.

⁶⁰⁸ Porto Rico; one of the Antilles,

east of Hayti and west of the Virgin Islands.

erie & extremitie, and for not knowinge where we waer, we arived at the River of Burde⁶⁰⁹ the second of Januarye /

And the Mr and the Reste of the Spanniardes knowinge theme selves to bee in Burde, thaye Commanded my selfe wth the three other of my Companye, to bee put into the shipes howld and there thaye kepte us Five daes and Five nites, in that manner, till the Juge of the Admirallie Came a borde of the shipe Riddinge aganste the Towne of Burdex and Examined my selfe, And the Juge understandinge the truthe of our Causes Carried me and the three other a shoer to Burdex.

And when I was at Lebertie I wente to one of the Chiefeste Counseller and certified him of our veyage & howe the Spanniardes had used us and in what manner thay had taken us. I desired his Counsell what Course was beste to take a gainste the Spanniardes, who advised me to see a Procter, and make a petition to the Parlemeute and to the Admirall to have the Mr of the Spanishe shipe & the rest of my Company examined, w^{ch} I did, and shod the Copie of all our examinations to my Counseller, who advised me to make a Letter of a Turnie to my Procter and to some other whome I thought good, and thaye to folloe the Causes a gainste the Spaniardes in my Absence, and my selfe to Repaire for England wth all speede, and to Returne wth certificate to Conferme our examination to bee truthe.

Where uppon I made a Letter of a Turnie to my Procter and to a nother my solester w^{ch} hadde order to areste the said Spanishe shipe and goodes, till further profe Commethe out of England.

This

⁶⁰⁹ The river of Bordeaux; i. e. the Garonne.

This beinge Finneshed I departed from Burdx and at my departtuer my Cownfeller and my Procter faed ther was no dowl but the worthe of the shipe and gudes wth all damages wold bee Recovered of them /

By me / DANIELL TUCKER.

Endorsed: 4 Feb 1606/1607 The Relation of Daniell Tucker · going to terra Florida. 3¼ pp.

CONCERNING THE SHIP TAKEN AT SEA GOING TO VIRGINIA.

(Cecil Papers 119/149.)

It seemeth by the journal of the Treaty, that the adventurers into any partes of the Indias, should be leaft unto the perell w^{ch} they should incurr thereby. Hereupon groweth this question, what is to be done with the Marrayners that are taken in Spaine, (being 18 or 20 in number) as they were goeing from the West partes of England to a discovery into Virginia; and what course is to be taken with the Spanish ship dryven into Bourdeaux, w^{ch} ship was a principall actor in taking the English ship. First it must be considered, that although it is disputeable, whether Virginia be part of the Indias though it be situate upon the same continent of the West Indies; yet for avoiding of the occasion thereby to fall into the gñall ⁶¹⁰ question of the Indias and our trading thereinto, it might be advised that it were better to leave these prisonners to their fortune, then by bringing it in question to stirr up some greater inconveniences that might ensue of it.

Secondly,

⁶¹⁰ General.

Secondly, yf it be alleadged that they went but to a place formerly discovered by us, and never possessed by Spaine, it may be answered that this allegation altereth not the state of the question but only the forme, whether wee may trade into any partes of the Indias that are not possessed by Spaine w^{ch} point was then at the handling of the Treaty directly denied by the Spanish Commiſſioners. All w^{ch} conſidered, it may be more aptly ſtood upon, that theſe priſonners having not yet offended (unleſs it be an offence, to be in thoſe ſeas (w^{ch} by the law of nations ought to be free quoad navigationem) but were only going, towards a place, w^{ch} is yet diſputable whether it be allowable or not by the Treaty, that in regard thereof, howſoever it may not ſeeme unjuſt to have ſtayd them and diverted them from their journey; yet it ſeemes to be unjuſt ſo rigourouſly to puniſh them for it, as to committ their bodys to priſon, and to take away their goodes. And therefore it may be concluded (under humble correction) that his Ma^{ty} may write in their favour, upon the termes aforeſaid, to the king of Spaine, or to his Ambaſſad^r there: and may geve order to his Ambaſſad^r in France, to inſiſt to demand Juſtice againſt the Spaniſh ſhip at Bourdeaux that tooke and robbed our men at ſea, as Pyrats doe. 2 pp.

End: 1606 Concerning the ſhip taken at ſea going to Virginia. In the hand of Levinus Munck, one of Cecil's Secretaries.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 120/53.)

NEVILL DAVIS TO THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.

RIGHT HONNORABLE my humble duetie Remembred, may yt please yo^r ho^r: that at pñt occasiō beinge offereid whereby I am imboldned to send these fewe lines unto yo^r lopp: Thereby to signifye the misferye of dyvers poore men here pryssoners, that were taken in a small shippe of Plymouth called the Richard where of was Captaine one Henry Challes; and as yt appereth were set forth by S^r Fardenando Joorge, and dyvers other gent: and they Report yo^r: ho^r: to be one of the Cheiffest adventurars in this there pretended voyage, beinge for a newe discovery in the norweast pts, under the Lattetude of 41 and 42 degrees. They were furprysed by seven marchant shippes, w^c did come from S^{ta} Domingo; mettinge them some 150 leages to the norward of porto rico, in the height of 27 degrees o^r thereabouts, here are 18 of them and 2 salvages of the country they went unto; The Captaine and one m^r Thomas S^t Jn^o we haue released under suerties. The relasiō of there proceedings, from the time thē departed from Plymouth, I refer to there wryttings, and report of some that have escaped, all there exfamynacions are taken and sent to the court y^e last weeke; by there confessions yt appereth they have comytted noe offence against anie of this kings subjects, only to doe good to a spanishe fryer, and preservynge his life was cause thē fell into these troubles, I will doe my indevor to assyft them in what I may, beinge sorry there pretence should so unfortunaytly be overthrowne, and discovered I have ad-
vertyfed

vertyfed my lord embaffedor hereof, who I hope will feeke remedye for there inlargm^t:

The Spaniards here feme nothinge pleased wth this attempt, and I doe thincke they will indevor to prevent us from goeing into thofe parts, if by anie meaines thẽ can, wherefore in the attemptinge yt againe, thofe w^{ch} are to mâindge⁶¹¹ the fame, muft deall very fircumspectlie for beinge enterfeptted, I hope that god will oppen thofe Remoot and unknowen places unto us whereby in tyme o^r country may fynde a more faffer and proffetabler trade then we have donne here fince the peace; for I doe afure yo^r Lopp: what thorough the foundry moleftacions by dyvers offyco^{rs} here and the exfessyve imposyffions w^c we pay inward and outward uppon o^r goods, we are, and fhallbe confumed by this trade, as I referr me to y^e gennerall report of thofe w^c doe advenrer hether, and fell the losse, and I am fure yf a true Calcolation were taken yt would be found his Ma^{ty}: fubjects haue loft near Eyghtie thoufand pounds by the trad of Spaine: All o^r woollen comodities for the moft part are in noe eftimaçon here, as before the warrs and daylie wilbe lefe and lefe, by reason of the great ftore of cloth made here, and for this hoot country, farr better then o^{rs}, wherefore yt is requyfit we feeke other places for the venting of o^r cloth, Thus refferinge my felf to the good confytheraçon of yo^r ho^r: and craving pardon fo^r my boldnes I reft contynewally prayinge for yo^r Lopp^s: happie eftayt etc /

Yo^{rs} honno^{rs} in all dutie: /

NEVILL DAVIS.

fr: Sivel this 4th of february, 1607: ftillo nova. Holograph. [No addrefs.] End: 1607 Nevil Davis to my lo: cheef Juftice concerning the men that went to Virginea. 1 p.

⁶¹¹ Manage.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 115/112.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HON^r: in my laste to your L: I advertised my opinion of the danger that might insew in cace the peace (then spoken of) betwen the arche Ducke and the Holondores tooke efeckte, fenc w^{ch} I heyr foe mouch out of france, as yt semeth, theyr is greatter cause to beleve yt is moste necessary, yt his Mag^{ty} wolde be plesed to take care of the perell that maye from thenc in fewe, for your L. shall finde (if yt shall please you to examen the p^rticolors of the fr: K: his profeding is), that yt cannot be, but he hath founthinge in hand extreordenary and hapely resoullvinge, now his coffores ar full, his stores in all plases furneshed, his state settled, his peopell riche, his kingdum replenished wth many exfelente Capⁿ: above all knowinge him selfe second to non, for his valluer Jugment and understandinge of the wares, that he duth but atend or secke ā oppertunity and it is posible you will finde, that rather then fayell, he wilbe rede to admenester the occasion himselfe, yether by wordes, or dedes, or both, of y^e fereft (if it be trew y^t is reported) he is no nigarde, and for the second, he hath latly hade the Governores of his principall portes wth him, unto whom, he hath geven instruxfiones, to procede in the carege of theyr afares accordinge to his plesuer in that behallf, what corse he hath rounne wth thos of the Low contreyes is best knowen to your L. but I thought it fyte in discharge of my duttey, to advertis to your hon^r: my opinion in this behallfe. To the end his Mag^{te}. myght be pleased to examine the estate of his
forfes,

forſes, and to have in confideration, that he hath, to encounter wth a frenche K: ſodden by nattu, (by his longe experenc) of great jugment, (and if he be not changed from what he was) ambifuſly inclined to inlarge his dominiones: and, in his profedinges, he hath advantage of any Prince Criſten, for he nedes not to conſulte wth his Cap, how, or what he ought to doo, but like a Ceſor, canne order all him ſellſe, by w^{ch} meanes he is aſhoured his reſoluciones wilbe kepte ſecrete (a matter of admarall conſequenc) in defines of this natuer.

as for the peace (the bond (as yt maye be thought) of our ſecuretey) yt hath never bin ſene that thoſ frenche kings have longer hilde wth our naſion, then untell they hade gayned the advantage fought for, and prinſes haue never bine to ſecke how to aprove theyr Cauſe juſte or lafull when they Liſted to make the ware, and the only menes to Continew a peſſe invialable, is, all wayes to be ſuffiſently provided, both to defend, and to offend, in w^{ch} caſe, non will dare to atempte, for ſeere of procuringe theyr ound Loſſe.

but how yt ſtandeth wth his Mag^{te} in this caſſe, is beſte knowen to your L. and all that ar honeſte and have cauſe to loke into yt, may wth greffe and ſorow lament yt, but not to dealle wth mor then what belongs to my particolor, and in diſcharge of my dutey I thought yt fyt heyrby, to geue advertiſment to your h. of the eſtate of this plaſe, that theyr by, I may be blamles what ſoum ever heyr after maye inſew, thorow defeſte or wante of thinges neſefarey: And ſerſte, for the plaſe y' ſellſe, your L: duth know yt was never finiſhed, beſides mouche of what was doun, tim hath decaied, nether was yt ever ſaſeſently fornished wth ordenance, or
ought

ought ellse, as for monifion, at my laſte couminge, the proportion was verrey Littell that I reſeved, and ſince, occaſiones hath bin, ether for triumphes, or ordenarey couſtumes of entertainmentes, that the greatteſte of that Littell is ſpente, nor is theyr any to be hade in theyes partes, what occaſion ſoum ever ſhould hapen, the ordinary garde, your wiſdum duth know, ar (in efeſte) nothinge, ſpeſually if the wares breake out betwen us and france, whos forſes, we ſhall ſonner ſee, then heyr of, and as for y^e toun, I aſhour your L: they ar growne mouch weaker then they wer in times paſte, for that the marenores, and ſefaringe men, that then did frequent yt, ar now gon the moſte of them ellſe wher, in like manor, the contrey, ar out of uſſe, and theyr armes out of order, theyr mindes unwillinge, and theyr boddes unapte, if this deſeaſe be univerſiall (as yt is to be feared) what can be hoped for, if the ſpeder courſe be not tacken for ſuply and reformation.

The Kingdom of Ingland is ſuche a baite to drawe on the inclination of an ambifius prince (knowinge our defectes and his ound power) as no tim is to be detracted, how by all meanes poſible, to ſecure and make fruſtrate any ſuche intente. The ſonner yt is accompliſhed, the leſſe wilbe y^e daingor and yt is a beſnes of that confequenc, that yt will indeur no delaye, humbly craving pardon if heyr in I ſem mor jelues then theyr is cauſe. bechinge your L to remember, that yt can be no dommege in tim to prevent a miſcheheſe, nor no hurte, in beinge able to in counter wth y^e worſte, yt is not feare of my ſellſe, or of my life, that duth urge me heyr unto, for deth is no ſtrainger unto my nattur, that duth know better how to dye then to leve, yt ſoum
care

care I have I confes not to be condemned when I am dede,
for havinge ben improvident, not to fecke for thinges nese-
farey in cafes of this confequenc, but how foun ever, I hum-
bly recoumende the confederafion of the holle unto your L.
grave and ho^r: wiffdum, defiringe in all duty to be remem-
bred in this my advertesment, and in all ferves to aprove
my fellfe duringe Life

Your L. moſte humbly to be coumanded /

FARD: GORGES.

PLIMOUTH this 19 of february 1606.

Add: To the Right hon^r: my verey good L. y^e Erell of Sallfberey geve theyes

End: 19 february 1606. Sir ferdinando Gorges to my lord. Holog: 3 pp.

(Colonial Papers, Vol. I. 1574-1621.)

SIR F. GORGES TO CAPT. H. CHALLONS.

MR CHALINGE I receiued your tres ſent me by the M^r
Nicholas Hines by whom I reſt ſatiſfied for your pte of the
proceedinge of the voyadge and I doubte not but you wilbe
able to aunſwere the expecta^con of all your freinds. I hoope
you ſhall receiue verie ſhortlie if alreadie you haue not an
Atteſtation out of the highe Courte of Admiraltie to giue
ſatiſfaccon of the truthe of our intent y^t ſett you out let me
advife you to take heede that you be not ou^rſhott in accept-
inge recompence for our wronges receivd for you knowe
that the ioⁿey hath bene noe ſmale Chardge unto us y^t firſt
ſent to the Coaſt and had for our returne but the five
ſalvadgeſ whereof two of the principall you had with you
and ſince wthin two monthes after your deſture we ſent out
another ſhippe to come to your ſupplie and now againe
we

we haue made a nue preparaçon of diuers others all wth throughe your misfortune is likelie to be frustrate and our time and Chardge lost, therefore you^r demands must be Aunfwerable hereunto and accordinglie seeke for satisfaçcon which cannot be lesse then fīue thousande poundes and therefore before you conclude for losse attende to receive for resoluçon from hence if they Aunfwere you not thereafter for if their condiçons be not such as shalbe reasonable we doe knowe how to right our selues for rather then we wilbe loofers a penny by them we will attende a fitter time to gett us^r our Content and in the meane time leave all in their handes therefore be you carefull herein and remember y^t it is not the buifines of Merchants or rovers, but as you knowe of men of another ranke and such as will not p^rferre manie Complayntes nor exhibite diuers petitions, for that they understande a shorter way to the woode, foe Co^mendinge you to god and Contiⁿuinge My selfe

Your most assured and lovinge Freinde /

FERDINANDO GORGES.

PLIMOTHE 13th of Marche 1606.

postscript. I pray you use the meanes that the saluadges and the Companie be sent over wth as muche speede as is possible and y^t you hasten you^r selfe away, if you see not likelihoode of a present ende to be had for we will not be tired wth their delaies and endlesse sutes suche as co^monlie they use but leaue all to time and god the iust revenger of wronges.

FERDINANDO GORGES.

End: 1606. The Coopie of S^r Ferdinando Gorges, his lre to M^r Chalens.

Receiued y^e 6 day.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 120/153.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

RIGHT HON^{BLE}: my humble dutie remembred:

Considering that the reasons w^{ch} commonly are most prevailant betweene princes & states, in conclusion of peace (if the victorie be not accomplished) are the necessities of eyther part not longer able to pursue the warres, and no sooner are the conditions concluded on, but the last day of the confirmation therof is the first begininge to make preparation to supplie those defects, and to hasten the meanes to incounter wth all occurrants that time, occasion, or mens natures shall present; for these reasons, together with the knowledg I have that ther is in yo^r Llo: the same wisdome, providence, & foresight, upon understanding, and examination had therof, I have thought it fitt in discharge of my dutie to give advertizment of the state of this place the w^{ch} his Highness hath been pleased to commend to my charge, unto the end that amongst other your graue considerations it may please you to take knowledg therof and therein to determyn what your wisdoms shall think fitt:

First therefore it may please your Lls: to understande that the fortification it self was never fullie finished, as it is not unknowne to some of yo^r Lls: and for want of reparation, much of what was doone is falln into ruine and decay, besides it was never sufficiently furnished with eyther ordnance, munition or ought els necessary or fitt, being of that nature and consequens yt it is, for as much as it is the only randevous his Ma^{tie} hath on all occasion to the Southward and the magazon for all the western parts, giving both life,
and

and courage to the Inhabitants, if it be used therafter. And as for powder it was a smale proportion that I receaved at my last cominge, the which is now in a manner wholly spent, what in triumphs for his Ma^{tie}, and usuall entertainment of strangers that pass in and out of the harbor; neyther is ther any in these parts to be gotten upon what occasion soever.

Secondly how smale numbers are assigned to doe duty both in the Iland, and the fort, I farther referr to yo^r wisdoms to be considered of, the w^{ch} I do the rather give in remembrance to yo^r Lls: because I dayly finde how much the serviceable people of this towne, and parts adjoyninge are decayed, and gone into other places, wherby we cannot so sodainly be assisted as in tymes past we might have beene. Neither do I finde the country in that readines as formerly they wer accustomed to be through the use and daily exercise they had of their armes, and the continuall expectation that every man lived in. But those occasions of alarums being ceased, their minds are now diverted, and wholly turned to self love of privat commoditie, and a senseless security of perpetuall peace, so as there can be nothing looked for from the multitude, without your grave and Hon^{ble}: wisdoms prevent it, but an absolute, and generall neglect of publique safetie, laying open therby that greate breach of advantage that a malicious, or ambitious enemy may expect or hope for.

These things Right Hon^{ble}: I doubt not, being of that consequence that they are, but that it will please yo^r Ho: out of your graue wisdoms to give present order for supply of things necessary therby to prevent the inconveniencese that for default therof may ensue, and for the better discharge of
my

my dutie heerin I have apointed my Lieftennant Captaine Barlee to give his attendance for yo^r Lls: resolutions, forbearing to trouble yo^r wifdoms with the multitude of reasons, that may be given for the hastning therof, only this concluding under yo^r Lls: favours, that, for myne own part, I could never finde ther was daunger in beinge armed to meet with all incounters, nor ar warrs commonly attempted, wher ther is knowledg taken of provifions in a readines and meanes, or power to resist, but on the contrarie, the negligent, and unarmed are allwaies a pray to the vigilant, and powerfull. Even so commending yo^r Llo: to gods holy protection, and the whole to yo^r grave and ho^{ble}: considerations, I humbly take my Leave. Written from his Ma^{ties} Fort by Plymouth this 7th of Aprill 1607.

Your Lls: most humble at Commaunde /

FARD: GORGES.

Add: To the Right Hon^{ble} the Lords of his Ma^{ties} most Honorable privie Counsell these. End: 7 Aprill 1607. Sir Ferdinando Gorge to the Ll. of the Counseil. 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 121/65.)

CAPTAIN GEORGE POPHAM TO THE EARL OF SALISBURY.

REMEMBRINGE my self in all humble dutifulnes unto my righte honorable good lord, doe by theis make bolde to advertize, that I directed my late tres unto yo^r L^{pp} concerninge a commaunde I had from my Lo: Cheife Justice of England, to appointe my self unto the discoverye and populacon of the western Colony in Virginia. I wishe my desire mighte goe accompanied wth any of the leaste acceptable

able service therein, yet durste I promise by due endevors to give my beste addiçon unto the same. I sente alsoe a ðre in that of myne enclosed, concerninge the passage of our merchantes aboute theire occasions in Spaine, & Portugall, whereof I thoughte fytt to acquainte yo^r honor. I am induced nowe againe in this my second to offer boldnes, w^{ch} goeth in the due comendaçon of this bearer M^r Rowland Jones Collector of his Ma^{ty}s Customes wthin the porte of Bridgwater, whoe intendeth to be a futer unto yo^r ho: upon some occasions throughe w^{ch} he maie obtaine a fetled determinaçon to contynewe in Somersset, by many desired there, beinge of credicte, by meanes of his honeste, discrete, & respectiue carriage. May it please yo^r good L^p to yelde him your favourable furtherance, either by yo^r ðres or otherwise upon allowable grounds of his reasonable futs, the w^{ch} he shall make manifeste, doubtles he will not onlie highlie holde him self bound to yo^r honor, but also my self will rest most thankfull in his behalf.⁶¹² He is well knowne to the Lls of Northampton and Suffolk as I was tolde in London, in regard of his true and faithfull services done to the lord vicount Byndon⁶¹³ of whome he was long time a follower. Even soe referringe bothe my self, and him unto yo^r moste ho^{ble} and gracious favours doe commytt the same wth my
many

⁶¹² This request was granted, as will be seen by the following:

"Whereas M^r George Popham his Ma^{ty}s Customer of the Porte of Bridgwater and the members thereof beinge by my good likinge and consente gonn in the late voyage to Virginia," etc., appoints Rowland Jones as Deputy during his absence.

End: 1607. From Copy of Letters Patent, Cecil Papers, 124/115.

⁶¹³ Thomas Howard, third Viscount Binden, created Knight of the Garter in May, 1606. His sister Douglaßs Howard married Sir Arthur Gorges of Chelsea, a cousin of Sir Ferdinando, and a man of distinction in the reigns of Elizabeth and James, especially for his literary attainments. Viscount Binden died in 1619, when the title became extinct.

many praiers unto the preservacon of the Highest, and moſte humblie take my leave. From Plymouth this Laſte of Maye 1607.

Yo^r honors moſte humble to commaund /

GEORGE POPH^m.

Add: To the righte honorable my verie good lord the Earle of Salifburye principall Seacretary to his moſte excellent Ma^{ty} and of his highnes moſte honorable privye Counsaile. End: ult^o May 1607 Captaine Popham to my Lo. from Plymmouth. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 121/113.)

HENRY CHALLONS TO THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.

RIGHT HONORABLE what I wrote your Lordſhip in my laſt as diſpearinge to be releved by our Ambaſſador here, experience hath ever ſithens continewally approved, for I weekly ſolicitinge him wth my lre^s could never obtayne any materiall anſwere untill the 5 of Iune w^{ch} was that the Conde de Leamos who is preſident of the Councell for the Indias, answered him that rather then ſuch as wear taken in thoſe parts ſhould want an exciutioner, he wold ſerve for hangman himſelfe, and farther writes in an other that the Condi de Leamos⁶¹⁴ had writen to the Contra^{cta}co here but writs not whether to hang us or diſcharge us. I reparinge to the preſident of the Contra^{cta}co here as deſirous to knowe
my

⁶¹⁴ Don Ferdinando de Caſtro, Andrade y Portugal; fourth Marqués de Sarria and ſeventh Conde de Lemos. He was the repreſentative of a powerful Spaniſh family, and occupied ſeveral important offices as ambaffador at the Papal Court, Preſident of the Council

of the Indias, Viceroy and Captain-General of the Kingdom of Naples, etc. He died in 1623. For ſome account of the family *vide Blaſon de Eſpaña*, by A. De Burges, Madrid, 1858, Vol. III. p. 259.

my paynes acquainted him that I understod that he had receaved letters as concerninge our businis who answered not a word and that we wear merely forgotten, and that no man spake for us else could we not but have bin delivered long sithence We Increase disseases and debts six pence in England is not a peny heare Robert Cooke is already dead. the boteson in prison stabd in the belly In judgment not like to recover the Indians ar taken from me and made slaves our ship is sonke in the river not like to be recovered we Indure all the Indignities and extreamities that is possible as to hire hes Ma^{tie} her Ma^{tie} and especially Certayne of your honours of our privie Concell most untruly and vilely reproched. Most humbly beseechinge your Lordship to conceave herof and relive us before it be to late. We pray god lengthen your honorable days who must shorten our miseris or else we perishe all.

June 26 stilo nova [1607].

(Cecil Papers 121/114.)

HENRY CHALLONS TO THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.

My humblest dutie. Sithence my last unto your Lordship, M^r Davice hath Receaved from our Ambassadors Secretary a line or two as concerninge us, the Contrarietie wherof to his former writings, approves his Carelesnis of us, and the veritie of the presedents speeche heare, w^{ch} was that we weare mearely forgotton, and that nobody spake for us, else coulde we not but have had libertie longe sithens. I most humbly beseeche your L. not to be disceaved by the Ambassidors letters, for I doubt not but whiles he servs the Spaniards

Spaniards torne in suffringe us to perishe by loathsome and tedious Imprisonments, whome there lawes cannot touche for offence he furnissheth your Honour wth many glosinge writings from w^{ch} his delusions good Lord deliver us. My boteson that I wrote to your Lordship was stabde, is dead, sithence, and I was faine, though they had murthered him in prison to pay the fees of the house er I could have him out, to burie him, in the Fields. All those that have Died in prison, have bin most unchristianlike used. Some of them have had there brains beaten out after they weare dead, there noses ears and privie members Cutt of. And Robert Cooke, the first that died had a Stringe tied to on of his legs and was Draged downe a peare of Stairs of thirtie steps affirminge they wold teach the Lutarane the way to hell. they forced his mouth open and puttinge a gag into it powred into his dead mouthe three potts of water Sayinge the Boracha⁶¹⁵ should have drinke Inough These extremities they use with us as I conceive to Inforce our men to there Religion, it doth much terrifie them. the god of all Strength strengthen and Comforte us all, there tiranies & Injustices ar Intollorable. I am comanded on paine of . 300 . Ducats and castigation. not to speake wth the naturalls, for the[y] Conceau that by my means they Cannot make them Chrifians. they will eyther Convert them, or by Famine Con-
founde

⁶¹⁵ *Borracha* in Spanish denotes a wine-skin, and *borrachon*, a drunkard. The Spaniards affected to regard the English as great drinkers; hence the application of the term to the dead sailor.

The cruelty of these bigoted cut-throats is no more conspicuous in this case than others in which the Lutheran

was the subject of religious rage; and if the reign of Elizabeth had accomplished no more for humanity than to cripple, as it did, this odious power. it achieved enough to glorify itself, while nothing can be more offensive to the Anglo-Saxon heart than the base truckling of James to Spanish power.

founde them for they ar almost starved already. There is three of my Company more not like to live, and I Judge the on of them Cannot Recover. I beseech your Honour in Christianitie consider of us, and let us wth Speede have some Comforte, else will it com to late for most of us, for there hath bin a Speach generally spread throughout all this Cittie, that the Inglishe Captaine Cominge to his Company in prison was slaine. But I thanke god I mist the hower, if there weare any Intention of such an action, as is much to be suspected by reason of such a Speach spread and howe littell they value the life of a Lutarane, as they terme us. God and our Kinge value our Religion better, and suffer not his subjects miseries and Contempt of our Religion to be there Contents. Prayinge for your Lordship I most Humbly Implore reliefe in Season for our Extremities Cannot indure Delais.

More likely to die then live in your Lordships service /

HENRY CHALLONS.

Iulie 3 stilo nova.

Endorsement to this and preceding letter : The Coppies of my two last letters sent to my L Chiefe Justice. 1607. Copies of M^r Challons lres to the Lo. Ch: Justice. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 121/172.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONER^{LL} my humble duty remembred. M^r Newport⁶¹⁶ (unto whome these lres were directed) did set sayle from

⁶¹⁶ Christopher Newport was one of the founders of Virginia. He had achieved fame for bravery and skill as a seaman in the wars with Spain before failing for the New World on December 19th, 1606, at which time he was forty-one years of age. His last voyage to Virginia was made in 1610, and after his

from hence on fryday, beinge the laste of Iuly; I was not at home when hee came firste into the harbor, but I understoode so much by him since, as I conceive a possibility of great good to bee don in the place where they ar; the Harbor beinge comodious, the Contry fertile, the Clime healthfull, but the people daungerous to bee dealt with, beinge by nature valiante and in number many. Wherfor in my poor opinion, it were necessary that all the haste possible were used for the supply of those that bee there; for if any disaster happen unto them, it wilbee a great discouragement and discountenance to the attempte; but if they bee royally seconded, there is no doubt of successe, so industry and good goverment be not wantinge.

I have understoode of your Lo^{pps} most honorable care had for the release of our poore men that ar Prysoners in Spayne, whose names I have sent to Captayne Barlee to be dd to your Hon^r handes, yealdinge all possible thanks to your good Lor^{pp} in theyr behalfe, whose estate wthout your Lor^{ps} favour is desperate, for that they ar in the handes of such who delighte themselves in doinge wronges to all and right to none, unles forsed by Necessity, contrary to theyr naturall custom. I forbear to speake of them what I thinke, bycause I do not desire, it should bee thought I am delighted in the controversyes of Princes, but I pray god, comon experience do not make it to manifest our daunger procured by the word Peace, purchassed (as themselves confesse) for theyr necessity, not of love to our Prince or Nation.

I

his return home he prepared an account of his experiences in America. This has since been published under the title of *Discoveries in America*.

I cannot as yet giue any asurance to your Lor^{pp} of the particulars of the estate of the Contry where wee have sent our Colony. But (if I bee not much deceaued) it will prove it selfe to bee such, as there wilbee great reason to induce som noble nature to undertake throughly the protection for accomplishment therof; it beinge a designe for the æternizinge of an honerable memory. The w^{ch} (if I durste bee so boulde) I would rather wish your worthy selfe to undertake then any subject whatsoever, both in respect of your wisdom to understand thinges of this nature, as also your eminent favor and great authority in the Co^monwealth, all matters of high consequence. For myne owne parte if our Nation may bee so fortunate as to finde your exception therof, I wilbee reddy and thinke myselfe most happy, if you shall vouchsafe, to make use, or co^maunde my best in-deavors, to go my selfe thither in such fashion as you shall thinke mee able to doe his Ma^{ty} and my Contry service. Howsoever I beseech your good Lor^{pp} to rest undoubtedly perswaded that my life, and all I have shalbee for ever,

Your Lor: humbly to bee co^maunded /

FARD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH this 7th of August 1607.

Add: To the Right Hor^{ll}: my very good Lord the Erle of Salisbury: these.

End: 7 August 1607. St Ferdinando Gorges to my Lord. 1 p.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 122/108.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT Ho^l: my humble duty remembred. I haue heerewth sente such letters and notes, as ar late com to my handes out of Spayne from M^r Challounes by the w^{ch} it may appeare what hath ben don on all partyes, and what hope ther is of the reliefe of those poore afflicted creatures, whose miseryes ar made the greater, by how much our Nation is helde in contempte and disdayne, reposinge no credet to any proofes, or oathes, made by any of ours, who ar not of theyr religion; for my owne parte, I am a servant to his Ma^{te} and a private person in my contry, and therfor do not know of my selfe, what course to take, to give them comfort, or reliefe: theyr imployment had a good intente, and was drawn on by his highnes gratiouse allowance therof; wherfor, my truste is, (as a humble petitioner in theyr behalfe) that it would please your Lor. out of your Ho^r care and commiseration of theyr state, to vouchsafe to effecte the meanes of theyr releasementes, wth what convienfy is possible, and leaue to time, and after opportunity, the recoveringe of satisfaction for our Ship and goods; Thusmuch I presume humbly to desire in their behalves, (who hath now, not any other left, that will remember your good Lo: of theyr miseryes, and continew a petitioner for them:

This to their Lo:^{pps} is an advertisement of such newes, as I haue receaved of the Spanish fleete; and theyre purposes; as also, fom reasons to induce, the daunger that may insue, if to much credet bee given to theyr pretextes; wth my remembrance

membrance to theyr Lo:^{pps} of my fute to have this place better furnished wth provisions necessary for defence; In the w^{ch}, I humbly beseech your Ho:^r favor, and that it will please you, to advaunce it, in such a measure, as your wisdom shall thinke good, wherin, I will alwayes reste, as many wayes I am bounde

Your Lo:^{ps} in all servise duringe life to bee commaunded /

FARD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH the 3. Octob: 1607.

Add: To the right Hono:^{ll} my very good Lorde the Earle of Salisbury these.

End: 3 Octob: 1607 Sr. Fardi. Gorges to my Lord. frō Plymouth. 1 p.

(Cecil Papers 122/107.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

My bounden duty to your good Lo:^{ps} remembred. There is lately com to my handes, advertisement of a Spanish fleete of fowrescore sayle of Shipps, that ar in a reddines, and that the Kinge of Spayne hath appoynted them to make theyr randivos (under the commaunde of Don Lewis) at the South Cape, there they were to attende certayne Gallyes and shipps, that com out of the straighes, wth fouldiors and fom other necessaryes for y^e voyadge; about the 28 of August the sayde Dun Lewis arived at the foresayde place wth 42 sayle, and 38 Gallyes, and left in Cales 8 shipps more, to com after him, as faste as they could bee furnished with men.

There is a stay made of all the Hamburgers and theyre men ar imprisoned.

They have 15 millions of treasure safely arived, and the
fleete

fleete for Nova Hispania, hath given over theyr voyadge, bycause they ar otherwise to bee imployed for this present.

It is farther sayd, that the lande souldiers (w^{ch} ar in this service) ar in all, som 12000, and that they purpose to go for Barbary, they ar royally furnished wth all fortes of provision. An other brute ther is that they intende to go about the North part of England for Embden; and ther is neither of these, but beare som shew of likelyhood; but for my owne part (under your Lo:^{ps} corrections) I see no reason, but it may well be doubted, if their purpose on Callis had taken effect, they would have past alonge the narrow seas, and have harbored themselves in that roade, and it is the more likely, for that they were furnished wth pilatts out of those partyes, where if they had arived, and joyned wth the forces of the Arch Duke what could have hindred them, to haue landed where they had most desired? But now it is to be hoped (by all good subjects) the neck of that designe is broaken. Notwthstandinge it may well be feared, that they have som plot on Ireland, for ther ar diverse reasons to induce a probability therof, the w^{ch} I doubt not ar better knowne to your Lo:^{ps} then to mee. Howsoever, feinge ther is an army a foote, (and that it is apparent to all men of experience or understandinge, how daungerouse a thinge it is, to hazard the inconveniences that may insue, by sufferinge an advantage to be taken by a puissant prince, on a nation besotted in a calme of peace) it were not inconvenient providently to prevent the worse, the w^{ch} I am asshured your Lo:^{pps} in your grave wisdoms hath already performed. Notwthstandinge, for as much as it hath pleased his Ma^{te} to esteeme mee worthy to bee his poore servant in a place of
that

that eminency, and importe that this is of, I could not otherwise discharge my selfe of my duty then by the way to signify thus much, and wthall to remember your good Lo^{ps} of my ould fhute, for the thorow furnishinge of thinges necessary for the defense therof, in case ther should bee cause to use it, wth out w^{ch} (as it is weel knowne to your Lo^{ps}) if ought fall out otherwise then well, I ought not to bee held blameworthy, in as much as I can but demaunde what I want, and that beinge had, do what is possible, so dependinge on your Lo^{ps} favorable construction of what I have sayde, and earnestly desiringe all happines to follow your grave counsells, humbly take my leave restinge

Your Lo^{pps} in all servise to be commaunded/

FARD : GORGES.

PLYMOUTH the 3 of October 1607.

Add: To the right Hono^{ll} my very good Lo^{ds} the Lordes of his Maties most Hono^{ll}: privy Counsell, these. End: 3 Octob. 1607. S^r Fardi: Gorges to the LL. of the Councill. 2 pp.

(Cecil Papers 123/77.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONOR^{LL}. This present day, heere is arived on of our shippes out of the partes of Virginia, wth greate newes of a fertill Contry, gallant Rivers, stately Harbors, and a people tractable, (so discreete Courfes bee taken wth them,) but no returne, to satisfy the expectation of the Adventurers, the w^{ch} may bee an occasion, to blemish the reputacion of the designe, although in reason it could not bee otherwayes, both bycause of the shortnes of theyr abroad there (w^{ch} was but two monethes) as also, theyr want of meanes to follow
theyr

theyr directions, theyr number being so small, and theyr busines so great, beside in very truthe, the defect and wante of understandinge of som of those imployed, to performe what they weare directed unto, from whence, there did not only proceede confusion, but thorough pride and arrogancy, faction, and privat resolution, as more at large your Lor: shall perceave, by my next, wth the particulars therof in the meane time, I have sente this inclosed, humbly beseeching, it may bee deliuered to S^r Francis Popham, whome I doubt not, but will at large acquaynte your Lor^{pp}. what he receaveth, although I beleeeve hee will not heare of all, that hath paste. For my owne opinion, I am confident, there will bee divers reasons to perswade a constant resolution, to persue this place, as firste the bouldnes of the Coaste, the easines of the navigation, the fertility of the soyle, and the severall sortes of Commodities, that they ar assured, the contry do yealde, as namely fish in the season, in great plenty, all the Coste alonge mastidge for shippes, goodly oakes, and Cedars, wth infinit other sortes of trees, Rasom, hempe, grapes very fayre and excellent good, wherof they have already made wine, much like to the Claret wine that comes out of France, rich Furrs if they can keepe the Frenchmen from the trade, as for mettalls, they can say nothings, but they ar confidente there is in the Contry, if they had meanes to seeke for it, neither could they go so high, as the Allom mines ar,⁶¹⁷ w^{ch} the Savages doth assure them there is great
plenty

⁶¹⁷ If the colonists had not seen these alum-mines, how came they to suppose that such mines existed? The Indians could have known nothing of the nature of the mineral, though it is possible that the colonists found specimens of pyritic shales in the vicinity of their camps, and were told by the Indians that farther

plenty of. Thufmouch I humbly defire may fatisfy your Lor^{pp} at this present, untill I bee better able to furnifh your Lor^{pp}, wth the reft that they can fay. I haue likewise fent your Lor^{pp} M^r Challoonnes his letter, brought mee out of Spayne, wherby it may appeare unto your Hono^r what hopes hee had at the writinges therof; howfoever for my particular I do infinitely thinke myfelfe bounde to your Lor^{pp} in theyr behalfe, and do yealde humble thankes for your Hono^r: favor, fhewed towardes them; theyr Cafe is miserable, and the wronges profered them infinite. I know not how to helpe it, but humbly to implore for theyr releafes

ther away fuch rock might be found in large quantities. It is probable that, in accordance with a prevalent custom, the Popham Expedition had a mineralogift attached to it, and that when he found any mineral of value he questioned the natives refpecting it, in order to learn from them if it exifted anywhere in confiderable quantities. Such was Thomas Graves, fubfequently fent to New England "to exercife his fcientific qualifications," and who is defcribed as "a man experienced in iron workes, in falt workes, in meafuring and furveying of lands, and in fortifications, in lead, copper, and alum mynes." Be this as it may, Sir Ferdinando ftated a fact to Cecil, as large depofits of pyritic fhale, or more popularly alum ftone, exift near the Sagadahoc. It occurs at the mouth of Sprague's River, near Smallpoint, in Georgetown; and an extenfive belt of it extends through the towns of Lifbon and Litchfield. On Jewell's Ifland alum has been fuccefffully manufactured from pyritic fhales within a recent period.

At the time when Sir Ferdinando wrote this letter, the manufacture of

alum was exciting public attention throughout Europe, and was confidered an enterprife of great importance in England; indeed, property bearing pyritic fhales appeared to the fubjects of the Englifh monarch almoft as valuable as property bearing the precious metals appears to us in this age. A few years before, Sir Thomas Chaloner, a gentleman of confiderable fcientific attainment and an extenfive traveller, had difcovered pyritic fhales on his eftate in Yorkfhire, and was fuccefffully manufacturing it in fpite of the anathemas of the Pope, who forefeeing interference with a profitable monopoly which the Papal States had long enjoyed, haftened to lay the enterprife under the ban of the Church; but Popes' bulls had ceafed to terrify Englifhmen, twenty-two chefts of the precious documents having been publicly burnt a fhort time before in Plymouth, and the manufacture of alum in England flourifhed. From this it will be feen that Sir Ferdinando had reason to take a deep intereft in alum-mines on the Sagadahoc.

leaves those who are best able to do them good and to ease their necessities in what I may, all the rest of the adventurers having given them over. Even so recommending your Lor^{pp} to Gods protection I humbly take my leave resting in all service during my life

Your Lor^{pps} humbly to be Comanded /

FARD: GORGES.

I should have remembered your Lor^{pp} that the Contry doth yealde Sauceparelia⁶¹⁸ in a great abundance and a certayne filke that doth grow in small Codds,⁶¹⁹ a sample wherof I will send this night or to morrow.

PLYMOUTH this 1 of December late at night 1607.

Add: To the Right Honor^{ll} my very good Lord the Earle of Salisbury theife.

End: pri. Decemb. 1607 S^r Fardi. Gorges to my Lord. 2 pp.

(Cecil

⁶¹⁸ The sarsaparilla, at this time so highly esteemed in Europe, was brought from Spanish America, and on account of the monopoly of the trade by Spain was of high cost. Its virtues are said to have been discovered to the world by a Spanish physician, Dr. Parillo; hence its name from *Zarza*, a prickly shrub, and *Parillo*, the name of the learned *medico*, equivalent to *Parillo's shrub*. It belongs to the family *Smilacæ*. The wild plant sent home by the colonists was one of many varieties of the *Araliaceæ* found growing from Canada as far south as Tennessee; and while it did not possess the virtues of the Spanish plant, became useful, especially for flavoring beer.

⁶¹⁹ There are several varieties of the

Asclepiadaceæ, all having pods or follicles containing long silky down, which has given to them the name of silkweed. The plant here alluded to, which attracted the attention of our early colonists, and which their fervid imaginations wrought into a botanical wonder that would make England independent of Indian looms and revolutionize the silk industry of the world, was without doubt the common milkweed, whose long pods, bursting in the golden sunshine of autumn, disclosed to them a wealth of silky filaments as fair to the eye as the glossy roll evolved from Oriental cocoons, but, alas! lacking the fibre which would render them capable of being wrought into enduring form.

(Cecil Papers 123/81.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE EARL OF SALISBURY.

RIGHT HONORA^{LL}: It seemes to bee moſte certayne, that ther is no enterpriſe, (how well ſo ever intended,) but hath his particular impedimentes meeting wth many oppoſitions, and infinite Croſſes, as in this ſmall attempt, (begun by my Lo: Cheefe Juſtice out of a noble zeale to his prince and Contry, (amongſt many others,) it is experienſed) for firſte as hee was honorable himſelfe, ſo hee thought all others weare, beleeving what they toulde him, and truſtinge to what, they promiſed, by w^{ch} meanes, his Lor^{pp}. was not a litle deceaved of what hee expected, for neither were his proviſions anſwerable to his Charge beſtowed, nor the perſons employed ſuch as they ought; in as much as the wantes of the on was cauſe of inabilitye to performe what was hoped; & the Childiſh factions, ignorant timerous, and ambitiouſe perſons, (for of that nature I founde the compoſition to bee) hath bread an unſtable reſolution, and a generall confuſion, in all theyr affayres. For firſte the Preſident himſelfe is an honeſt man, but ould, and of an unwildy body, and timerouſly fearfull to offende, or conteſt wth others that will or do oppoſe him, but otherwayes a diſcreete carefull man. Cap-
tayne Gilberte is deſcribed to mee from theſe to bee deſirous of ſupremacy, and rule, a looſe life, prompte to ſenſuality, litle zeale in Religion, humerouſe, head ſtronge, and of ſmall judgment and experienſe, other wayes valiant inough, but hee houldes that the kinge could not give away that, by Pattent, to others, w^{ch} his Father had an Act of Parliament
for,

for,⁶²⁰ and that hee will not bee put out of it in haste, wth many such like idle speeches, w^{ch} (allthough hee bee powrlesse to performe oughte) weare not unfit to bee taken notice of bycause it weare good in my opinion that all such occasion were taken away, as may hinder the publique proceedinge, and let the cause of sedicion bee plucked up by the Roote, before it do more harme; besides hee hath sent (as I am farther informed) into England for divers of his freindes, to com to him, for the strengning of his party on all occasions (as hee termes it) wth much more that I have receaved notis of to this effect; w^{ch} I thought it my duety to advertise your Lor^{pp} in time, that som course may bee taken, to prevent mischiffe. w^{ch} must bee don by immediate authority from thense, taking no farther notise heerof, then your wisdom shall thinke good, but the better to manifest, and to bringe all to light, w^{thout} callinge the authors in Quaestion, your Lor^{pp} may bee pleased to sende downe present commaunde, to intercept all letters whatsoever, and to whomesoever, and to cause them to bee sent up, (for I know in whose possession these letters ar yet, and I thinke I shall finde the meanes to keepe them from being delivered in haste. As for the reste of the Persons imployed, they ar either fit for theyr Places or tolerable, But the Preacher is mozte to bee commended, both for his Paynes in his place, and his honest indevors; as also is Captayne Robert Daues,

and

⁶²⁰ The patent to which Sir Ferdinando refers, and upon which Raleigh Gilbert based his hopes, is to be found in Hazard's *Historical Collections*, Vol. I. pp. 24-28. This patent had, however, been assigned by Sir Humphrey

to Sir Thomas Gerrard and Sir George Peckham, according to a petition to be seen in the Public Records Office, Domestic Correspondence, Elizabeth, Vol. CXLVI. No. 40.

and likewise M^r Turner theyr Phisitian, who is com over, to follicite theyr supplyes, and to informe the state of every particular. I haue sayde in my laste to your Lor^{pp} what I thinke how necessary it is, this busines shoulde bee thoroughly followed, but if I should tell your Hon^r. how much I am affected unto it in my owne nature, it may bee that my commendations therof, would bee of the lesse credit, but I desire in my soule, that it would please God, his M^{ty} would take it into his owne handes, unto whome (of right) the conquest of kingdoms doth appertayne, and then should I thinke my selfe moste happy to receave such imployment in it, as his highnes shoulde thinke mee fit for, and I woulde not doubt, but wth a very litle charges, to bringe to passe infinite thinges; I will say no more of it, at this present, only I make no quæstion but that your Lor^{pp}. will finde it to be of greater moment, then it can easily bee beleaved to bee; I haue sent unto your Lor^{pp} the Journalls that were taken by on of the Shippes, as I receaved it from theyr going out, untill theyr returne, by w^{ch} the navigation will appeare to bee as easy as to Newfound lande, but much more hopefull. Even so commending your Lor^{pp} to Gods holy protection I will ever rest during life

Your Lorst^{pps} humbly to bee commaunded /

FARD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH 3 of December.

Add: To the Right Hono^l, my very good Lord the Earle of Salisbury. End: 3
Decemb. 1607 S^r Fardi: Gorges to my Lord. 2 pp.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 120/66.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONOR^{LL}: Our second shipp is returned out of the partes of Virginia, but wth advertifement of nothings more, then wee receaved at the first, only the extremity of the winter, hath ben great, and hath forely pinched our People, notwithstanding (thankes bee unto God) they have had theyr healthes exceedingly well, although theyr Cloathes were but thinne and theyr dyets poore, for they have not had on sicke from the time they came thither, to the instant of theyr cominge away. Y^e President, and his People, feedes us still wth hopes of wonders, that wilbee had from thence in time, but I feare mee, ther must go other manner of spiritts to settle those busines, before it wilbe brought to passe, for I finde the continuance of theyr idle proceedinges, to have mutch prejudicialld the publique good, devidinge themselves into factions, each disgracing the other, even to the Savages, the on emulatinge the others reputation amongst those brutish people; whose conversation, & familiarity they haue most frequented, w^{ch} is on of the cheefest reasons, wee haue to hope in time, to gayne that, w^{ch} presently cannot bee had, they shew themselves exceeding subtill and conninge, concealing from us the places, wheare they haue the comodities wee seeke for, and if they finde any, that hath promised to bringe us to it, those that came out of England instantly carry them away, and will not suffer them to com neere us any more.

These often returns wthout any comōdity, hath much discouraged our adventurers, in espetiall in these partyes, although in common reason, it bee not to bee looked for, that from a savage wildernes, any great matters of moment can presently bee gotten, for it is arte, and industry that produceth those thinges, even from the farthest places of the worlde, and therfor I am afrayde, wee shall have much a doo, to go forwards as wee ought, wherfor it weare to bee wished, that som furtherance might bee had (if it weare possible) from the cheefe springe of our happines, I meane his Ma^{ty}. who at the laste, must reape the benefit of all our travell, as of right it belonges unto him; besides if it please your Lo^{pp} to looke into it, wth those eyes, wth the w^{ch} you pearce the greatest, and most obscure conjectures, you will finde it most necessary, it should bee so, both for many publique, and private reasons as first the certaynty of the commodities, that may bee had from so fertill a foyle, as that is, when it shalbee peopeled, as well for buildinge of shippinge, havinge althinges risinge in the place, wherwith to do it, as also may other hopes therof to insew, as the increase of the Kinges Navy, the breedinge of marriners, the imployment of his People, fillinge the world wth expectation, and satisfyinge his subiectes wth hopes who now ar sicke in despayre, and in time will growe desperate through necessity, also hee shall sease that to himselfe, & to his posterity, thew^{ch} hee shall no sooner quite, but his nighbors will enter into, and therby make themselves greate, as hee might have don, for at this instant, the french ar in hande wth the natives, to practise upon us, promisinge them, if they will put us out of the Contry, and not trade wth none of oures, they will com unto them.

them, and give the succors, agaynst theyr Enemyes, and as our People heares, they have ben this yeare wth fowre shippes to the Southwardes of them, fom 50 Leag: and the truthe is, this place is so stored wth excellent harbors, and so bouldes a coaste, as it is able to invite any actively minded, to indevor the possesseinge therof, if it weare only to keepe it out of the handes of others. I could say much more in this, but I am loathe to bee over troblesom to your Lor^{pp} and therfor I will thus conclude under your Lor^{pps} Favor, that I wish his highnes would bee pleased, to adven-ter but on of his middle sorte of shippes, wth a small pinnace, and vthall to give his letters, and commissiion, to countenance and authoresy, the worthy enterpriser, and I durste my selfe, to undertake, to procure them to bee victualld by the ad-venturers, of these partes, for the discovery of the whole coaste alonge, from the firste to the seconde Colony, es-pecially to spende the moste parte of the time in the searche of those places already possessed, and for myne owne parte, I should bee proude, if I might bee thought worthy to bee the man, comāunded to the accomplishment heerof, by his Highnes, and should thinke it a season well spent, wherein I should have so many hopes, to serve my Contry, wherof the least would bee in this sleepy season, the inablinge of my owne judgment, and experience, in these maren causes, therby, the better heerafter on all occasion, to discharge my duty to my Soverayne. Alw^{ch} I humbly reco^mend to your Hon: wisdom, to bee so handled as you shall vouch- safe to thinke good, for the reputation of him, whome you have tyed to you, by many obligations, and even so I
will

will humbly comēnd your Lo^{pp} to Gods holy protection,
restinge ever

Your Lo^{pps} humbly to bee comāunded /

FARD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH this 7 of February.

Add: To the Right Hono^{ll} my very good Lord the Earle of Salisbury. End: 7
Feb^r 1607. S^r Ferd. Gorges to my Lord. 3 pp.

(Cecil Papers 120/130.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR R. CECIL.

RIGHT HONOR^{le} This enclosed I thought it fit to send unto your Lor^{pp}, that by it your hon^r might perceave what effecte your noble favoure hath wrought, that foe worthilye endeavored the libertie of those poore distressed soules that have this longe indured afflixcion contrary to comōn reason: but by their proceedings it is manifeste in how base esteeme they houlde our people, beinge carelesse what indignities, or outrages they offer us, but I wish it might but please his Ma^{tie} to give his servantes leave to use their best meanes to right them selves of this their insupportable wrongs, provided that they violate noe article of peace, farther than they them selves have done in this: Neather doe I see, in my poore understandinge, whye his Highnesse may not make it free by his proclamation, for all his subjectes to make the warre in the Indes wher he hath concluded noe peace, nor whether his subjectes cannot goe, but to their losse, & ruen. It is reported, that the French Kinge hath taken this course, & that his people ar now in preparation

Ad pedes serenissimi regis sui humillime se prout Georgius Pophamus presidens
Secundæ colonie Virginie, si diuina magestas tue placuerit patientie a seruo
obseruantissimo ac deuotissimo quavis indigno pauca recipere, ab Altitudinis tue
claritate vel minimū alienare arbitror. Quonia in dei gloria sublimitatis vestre
amplitudine et Britannorū Vilitatem reddundare videantur. persequi igitur
inducani magestati tue notū fieri, quod apud Virginios et moassones nullus
in orbe terrarū magis admiratur quā Dominus Iacobus Britannorū imperator
propter admirabilem iustitia ac incredibile constantia quæ istarū pvinciarū
natiuis non mediocre perfert, letitia, dicentibus in super nullū esse deu verē
adorandū preter illū Domini Iacobi sub cuius ditione atq; imperio libenter
militare voluerint Tahanida vnus ex natiuis qui Britannice adfuit vestras
laudes ac virtutes hic illis illustrauit. Quid et quantū in his negocijs subeundis
et illorū ammos confere mandis Valere, eorū sit iudiciū qui domi volutarunt
scilicet agnoscens, omnes conatus meos porite cū in compatione officij debiti
erga principē habeantur. Optima me tenet opinio dei gloria facile in his
regionibus elucescere, vestre magistatis imperij amplificari et Britannorū
tempus breuiter augmentari quod ad mercimoniū attinet, omnes indeginæ
constanter affirmit his mense provincijs nubes a mysticas maciam, et
smamoniū: preterea Betumen, lignū Braseliæ, Cuchinela et Ambergrētie
cū multis alijs magni momenti et Valeris ~~atq;~~ eaq; maxima quidē abundantia
Insuper affirmatiuē meū aquant esse mare aliquod in aduersa vel occidentali
huius prouincie parte notū plus septem dierū iteneris spaciū a presidio
nostro Sancti Georgij in Sagadahoc amplū, latū et profundū, cuius
terminos prorsus ignorant. quod aliud esse non potest nisi australe
tendens ad regiones Chine quæ longe ab his partibus procul dubio esse
non possunt Si igitur placuerit distinos habere oculos tuos apertos in
subiecto certificationis mee non dubito quin Celsitudo vestra absoluet opus
deo gratissimū, magnificentie vestre honorificū, et reipub. tue maxime
conducibile, quod ardentissimis precibus vehementer exopto. et a deo
optimo maximo contendūdo Vt regis mei Domini Iacobi magestatem qua
diutissime seruat gloriosam p presidio Sancti Georgij in Sagadahoc de
Virginia 13^o Decembris 1607

Seruus vestre magestatis ommodis deuotissimus
Georgius pophamus

will
resti

PL

Add:
F

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aration

aration to goe thether on all handes. But I cease farther to speake hereof, unlease it may be thought, I urge more then is fitt at this tyme. As concerninge our Plantation, we have found the meanes to encowrage our selves a newe, and have sent two shippes from Topsome for the supplies of those that be there, wth victualles & other necessaries, havinge sett downe the meanes how we shalbe able, by Maye next, to send one more of 200 tunnes. We frame unto our selves many reasons of infinite good, that is likely to befall our countrie, if our meanes fayle us not to accomplish it. But we hope, before Sum̄er be past, to give such satisfaction to the wordle here of, as none that ar lovers of their Nation, but will (for one cause or other) be willinge to wish it well at the least, what crosses foever we have receaved heretofore. Yet I am verely perswaded, that y^e end will make amendes for all; For it is sure, it is a very excellent countrie both in respectē of the clyme, as also the multitude of goodlye Rivers & harboures it doth abound with all; besides the severall comodities that a fertile soyle will yeelde; when arte, and industrye shalbe used for the ease of Nature, the wh seems to shewe her selfe exceedinge bountifull in that place. But, here of to trouble your Lorpp: Noe more at this present. I humbly comēd your Hon^r to Godes holye protection, & rest during lyfe

Your Lordshippes in all service to be comāunded /

FARD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH March 20, 1607.

Add: To the right hono^l: my very good Lord the Earle of Salisbury these.

End: 20 Martii 1607. S^r Far: Gorges to my Lord. 1 p.

(Cecil

(Cecil Papers 120/154.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE EARL OF SALISBURY.

RIGHT HONORABLE I haue forborne to make answ^r to yo^r Lo: of the 18th of March till this instant upon some advertizements that Came to my hannds of likelihoode of a present peace to be concluded betweene the arch-duke and the states of the united provinces, fo^r that I would be better assured thereof by more wayes then one before I tooke vpon me to speake what I thought Concerning yo^r Lo: in that behalf, but since observing the Cariage of their affaires, I am easely induced to forget that eue^r I app^rhended cause of p^rs^ent doubt to arise from Fraunce. for I perceave that when they have assured themselves of all they can expect, and doone all they purpose, his ma^{tie} shalbe advertized the particulars thereof. I know yo^r wisdome is not ignorant of the levitie of a mechanically people throwne into despaire, for that they see themselves neglected and made neuteralls from whence their best hopes of succours we^r expected. Nay more they are jealous least their enemies receive more favo^{rs} then themselves. But not to trouble yo^r Lo: wth more then is needfull, if my understanding, and intelligence doe not much deceave me, their peace is resolved upon, and therefore it we^r not amiss, in my pore opinion, that it would please his Ma^{tie}, howsoever, to give orde^r to his Governo^{rs} of his Cautionarie Townes to be Carefull of their dutie, and above all things, if it be not too late to attempt it, it we^r good to stopp the conclusion of what is intended, in as much as ther can nothinge be soe dangerous to his Ma^{tie} as the
union

union of Spaine and them, for no man of Judgment and experience will deny, but that all the Ilannds of the world, not made unaccessible by art or unaprochable by nature are subiect to him that will affaile them being Lord of the Sea, his highnes having the harts and favo^{rs} of the Low Countrie men did justly inherit that tytle, and soe long might haue beene the les^s carefull of his Enemyes, allthough we haue seene an invading army on ou^r coast when the forces of both stats wer united. But if they shalbe severed from us how much more easie will it be. and I am verely perswaded that the peace will not soone^r be Concluded on but yo^r Lo. will heare greate words out of Spaine and receive dayly advertizment of many disdainefull pts proffered. I could speake more, w^{ch} in reasone I see likely to ensue, but that I dare not, and doe rather desire pardon fo^r w^t I haue faide allreadie. Yf it may please yo^r Lo. to be so favourable as to be a meanes that my Lo. Treasurer will make even wth us fo^r ou^r entertainment, that I may satisfie some poore men to whom I stand ingaged, I will god willinge be my self at London very shortly more particularly to delive^r to yo^r Lo. w^t my experience hath taught me is probable will ensue, as alsoe my opinion w^t way the Currant must be turned.

I haue written to the^r Llo. shewinge the state and defects of this place wherein I have indeavoured wth my best understanding to discharge my publike duty, humbly praying yo^r Lo. to vouchsafe it what furtherance yo^r wisdome shall think fitt, beseeching yo^u to Continue yo^r Ho. disposition in advanceinge the relief of those pore wretches that we sent for the discovery of Virginia, dobtng nothing, notwthstandinge the mallice of the Divell, that so unhappely hath wrought
our

our Los of tyme, but that the event will prove bette^r then in truth yo^r Lo. hath reason yet to expect it should, and I verely belieue when it shall once be discovered, and the Commodetyes knowne, yt wilbe thought fitt by yo^r Lo. and the rest of the Llo. that his Ma^{tie} undertake yt as his proper designe, making it an enterprife and imployment fitt for some such noble and generous spirite as his Highnes shall vouchsafe to thinke worthie to be sent his Liefenant fo^r the government and orderinge of those affaires. Even soe the god of heaven blefs yo^r Lo: and make yo^u happie in all yo^r Honorable desires beseeching yo^u to commaund me during my lief as him that is

Yo^r Lo. most humbly to be Commaunded /

FARD. GORGES.

from PLYMOUTH the 7th of Aprill 1607.

Add: To the Right Honorable my verie good Lord the Erle of Salisburie. End:
7 April 1607. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my Lord. 2 pp.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, James I., Vol. XXXII. No. 33.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SALISBURY.

RIGHT Ho^{l^{ty}} I thought it my duty to aduertize yo^r Loppe that Captayne Challones hath made an escape out of Spaine and is arrived here havinge brought wth him his bayle. Which he hath don for that he sawe his cause soe desperate, & his hope soe smale and finding by the manner of their pceeding noe likelyhode of other, then a miserable conclusion of his tedious suite. But (poore gent^l) his wants are soe greate now (he beinge come home) as he hath not meanes to supplie his p^rsent necessityes; otherwise he had
come

come vppe to haue giuen your Loppe a particular accompte of his knowledge of the affayres of those partes him selfe: As alsoe to haue giuen his dutyfull thancks for those ho^{le} favours it hath pleased yo^r Lo^p to afforde to him, & the rest of his poore people, whome he left in greate extreamity. But those thinges of moment, w^{ch} I colle^{ct}e from his relation, is first a greate Leuey towards of land-souldiers; but it is not knownen whether they are to goe, or what their intent is to doe. Ther is alsoe a co^mon opinion, y^t the peace wth the Hollanders will not goe forward by reason (as they saye) that yo^r Loppe is pleased to oppose yo^r selfe agaynst it, and to giue encowragem^t vnder hand to the Flemⁱnges to make demaunds of unreasonable condicions; for w^{ch} yo^r doinge they dowbt not, but your dayes wilbe shortened, & then they p^rsume to frame their businesse to their better lyking. They pmize mountaynes vnto them selues, & are perswaded of greate partyes, that they haue in England (when the tyme shall come) y^t are fitt to make use of them. They speake moste basly, & unworthiely of his Ma^{tie}, & alsoe of her Highnesse, & soe vile as it is agaynst the nature of an honest man to write it; nor possible to liue, & heare it (if it be as he reportes) wthout endeuouring to be revenged of it. My desire is not to aggravate matters betweene Princes, or to be noted for a boatafeu in these tymes of peace; the w^{ch} maks mee more sparing then otherwise I would be, fearing least my p^ression would be an occasion to perswade y^t what I saie is rather what I wishe, then that which is true indeede. Notwthstanding I beseeche God we repent not to late ouer the too-soone-concluding of peace: for (as now the case standeth) o^r

kinge now is by them (as it seemeth) contemned, our people unjustly pceeded wthall, and generally our nation of all other lyke to be debarred from the liberty of making use of Sea, or land; faving wher, & how they list to dispose of us. These reports ar horrible to honeste Natures to heare; and occasions much to griue our people in generall to unde'stand of, whose eares ar dayly filled wth it by every comon mariner, that comes from thence: Which what it hath bred amongst y^e multitude, I ptest, I am affraied to write. But God is he alone, that directes all things according unto his owne pleasure the accomplishm^t of whose will we must continually pray for, & unto whose holy protection I humbly reco^mend yo^r Lop^p to be defended from the malice of those, who ayme at you for that they endeouore the ruine of kinge, and Country; and (as they seeme playnly to confesse) kept from their desire by your carfull vigilancy and foresight. Euen soe craving pardon of yo^r Lop^pe for my bouldnesse I end, and for ever rest⁶²¹

Yo^r Lop^pes in all service to be com^aunded /

FARD: GORGES.

from PLYMOUTH May 2 1608.

End: To the Right Ho^{le} my very good Lord the Earle of Salefbury at the Court giue these. / 2^d May 1608. S^t Fard: Gorges frō Plimmouth.

(State

⁶²¹ This letter and Challons' letters of June 26th and July 3d explain quite fully the true relations between Spain and England at this time. The Spanish arrogantly claimed the entire Western Continent, and seized English ships going towards America, imprisoned and inhumanly abused their crews, and treated the English nation with contempt, while the pusillanimous James took no steps

to defend the national honor. The English representative at the Spanish Court well knew the policy of his master; hence, as Challons says, the poor prisoners were forgotten, having no one to speak for them. Gorges and others were, however, actively at work in their behalf, in spite of the want of governmental aid. Ample evidence of the arrogant claims to the American continent

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, James I., Vol. LXV. No. 16.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SALISBURY.

RIGHT HO^{RBLE} here ar aryved certaine Marchaunts of London, that lately hath byn taken neere Sylly by English pyratts, whose names and shippes wth their forces I haue herewth sent your Lo^{pp} as those exam^{ts} could giue them me, to their best memories, the pticulers of the mann^e of their usages, (as also the insolency of these Barbarous creatures, wth their aprobious speeches of his Ma^{tie}, and scorne of the p^{nt} gou^{rn}ment.) I referr unto their owne relacion, and although yt bee but the frute of such wicked feede, Yet in respect of the genall exclama^{on}, that is made by the Subjects, especially the poore Marchaunts of these ptes, whose peaceable trade is the p^{nt} life of this Countrey, I could not (in dischardg of my duetie) but signifie my poore understanding, how necessarie it is, some p^{nt} Course should be taken for the suppressing of them, that ar such Cankers fretting even unto the Marrow and yf I bee not much disceaued,

continent by the Spaniards is to be found in the official correspondence in English archives. Sir John Digby wrote to Cecil somewhat later than this, that the Spanish ambassador, it was thought, would be directed to request England to remove her plantations from Virginia, and that the English were not to be permitted to plant there. Lying was a fine art in European courts at this time, and at Madrid the most ridiculous tales were set afloat respecting the English attempts at colonization. Even the Spanish ambassador, Don Pedro de Cuneja, wrote from London,

that in order to increase the colony of Virginia, he was informed "credibly," an adverb of suspicious import, that the English and barbarous nations were to intermarry; that already forty or fifty Englishmen had married Indian wives, and English women intermingled with the natives. An overzealous clergyman, he says, who condemned the practice, had been wounded. He suggests that they might easily be removed. *Vide* Spanish Correspondence, Office of the Public Records, James I., Vol. LXVIII. No. 100, p. 126 *et passim*.

disceaues, yt weere no hard matter to suppressse them, Yf that weere done that might bee, but wthout Chardg it cannot bee accomplished, in the meane tyme, for that they giue yt out they intend to come into Caufen Baye, to supply them selves wth men, and such other things as they want, for that it is so neere his heighnes Garison, yf I may but receiue order to warrant my doing therein, their cominng thether shalbe to their litle comfort, and yf the wind favoure them not the more, I will make some of them giue an accompt of their doing at wapping, Yt is true, this peaceable tymes affords no meaines of ymployments, to the Multitude of people that daylie doe increase, and manie ar inforced (by necessitie) to seeke some wayes, to sustaine themselves, and although this, (of all other bee the worst, yet to such in whome there is no fealing of honestie, or Religion (as in the multitude there is litle) even this Course is aplauded, and therefor their nomber the likelier daylie to increase, To meete wth these necessities the Ages past hath imployed great cost in the planting of Colonies in barbarous and unhabited ptes of the world to the great honor of those Prynces, and peace of the tyme wherein they lyved, but in that argument, I will not bee too bold, but humbly referr, the consideraçon of all unto your Lo^{ps} wisdome, unto whome what is fitting for these tymes, is better known then to me, that Lyue so farr of from all accorrants, and so ignorant of great matters as I confesse my felfe to be, and therefor I cease farther to be troublesome, but onlie rest duering life in all duetie and service,

Your Lo^{ips} humbly to be Co^mmaunded /

FARD: GORGES.

I must humbly craue pardon of your Lo^{ipp} yf these aduertisments come not unto your hands, wth that expedicion, it might bee expected, the ought to haue done, the packet being now downe, I ame inforced to send by this meanes, or by expresse messenger, the latter would ryse to a chardg extraordinarie, the w^{ch} at this tyme I haue forborne, untill I know farder yo^r lo:^{ipps} pleasure in that behalfe.

From PLYMOUTH this 5th of July. 1611.

[Enclosure.]

THE examinaçon of John Collever, John Fisher, Humphry Covsen, Robert Spenser, & John Dose taken at Plym^ymouth the 4th of July: 1611.

Who faith that being in a shipp called the Concord of London of the burden of 240: Tonne bound for the straites in whose company there was one other shipp of Dover called the Phillipp boniventure they mett (some 16: leages to the Southwards of Syllie the xxvjth of June last past) wth six fayle of pyratts in the one was Captaine Peter Easton in a shippe of 200: Tonne and 24: peces of ordinaunce, another was called William Hewes in a shipp of 160: Tonne, wherein was 16: peces, the others weere Called William Bough, William Wolmer and William Harvy, in like shippes of 160: Tonne and 18: peces in everie shippe saving Harvy who was in a pinke of 60: Tonne wth 8: peces, these fellows had in them some 600: men all english who take the said Concord and her Confort, but the Concord being a tall shippe, and verie well fitted wth ordinaunce and municion, they caryed away wth them dismissing the
shippe

shippe of Dover (after they had kept them one whole weeke,) taking out of her such things as they thought fitt giuen out the ment to come into Caufen bay to take in men and such other things as they thought they should be provided wthall in those ptes, in the tyme they weere aboard, the said Easton and his ptners, they mett of Vshing, wth another Confort shippe of their Crewe, being three sayle wherein was for Captaine one Steavens, in a shippe of 300: Tonne and 24: peces of ordinaunce; in a nother of 200: Tonne there was one Franke, and in the third there was one Arthur Geeye in a shippe of 200: Tonne, the w^{ch} it seemed the had taken not long befor being a holander/ These men thus furnished threaten the world and giues yt out the expect to be called in verie shortlie by his Ma^{ties} pardon for 40000: powns, of whome not withstanding they speake verie aprobuouſlie, but wthall they say yf the bee not the will take and spoyle all they meete wth. Of the South Cape there lyes one S^r John Ferne late of London wth Ten sayle of shippes, who likewise is of the same company but he hath bound himselfe to keepe that pte.

They say farder that there is in all, of these kind of vermen to the nomber of 40: sayle, and 2000: men, all English, their co^mon Randevos is at Mamora in Barbarie, where they haue Marchaunts of all sorts that trades wth them for all kind of co^modities, especiallie those of leage-horne, this is the effect of what they can say:

FARD: GORGES.

End: for his Ma^{ties} seruice. To the Right ho^rble my verie good Lo: the Earle of Salisbury Lo: heigh Treforer of England giue theise att the Court: FARD GORGES. 5 July 1611. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my lord.

(State

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, James I., Vol. LXVIII. No. 6.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SALISBURY.

RIGHT HONO^{BLE} I shall not neede to troble your lo^p with a discourse of the severall passages hapened in the employments of Cap: Midelton, beinge him selfe best able to doe it, whom I have acquaynted with your lo^{pps} pleasure, Concerninge the pirattes present repayre to the Ile of Weyght but it semes (as I wrote unto your lo^{pp} in my last) they purpose to stand (as yet) uppon their garde, untill they here the successe of this Shipp and her Companie, and to that end are put into Ierland, wher they presume to have speedy advertisement of all that may concerne them, and so if they like not the proceedings to retorne to their owld trades or to put them selves uppon the protection of the Duke of Florence,⁶²² whether is best for the state of our Cuntrye, may well be (in my poore opinion) a question, and therefore I shall not neede to advise a parson so wise and full of judgmente as is your lo^{pp} that all arte and expedition be employed, Consideringe that these are but wilde and timorous people fearfull of everye thinge, savinge what may doe them hurte, for that Cause I have taken a Course as nere as I am able, to assure these their members, of all good usage, for so was Cap: Mideltons request vnto me, therefore what is farder your lo^{pps} pleasure to be done, uppon knowledge therof, I wilbe careful to see accomplished

⁶²² Cosmo II. *de Medici* was at this time Grand Duke of Tuscany, or Florence, as Sir Ferdinando Gorges entitles

him. He succeeded Ferdinand in 1608, and died in 1621.

accomplished to the vttermoſt of my power, and ſhall thinke my ſealfe happye if your lo^{ipp} ſhalbe pleaſed to Commande my ſervice, to the which office I acknowledge my ſealfe alwayes bownde as he that is and wilbe duringe liſſe.

Your lo^{ipps} humbly at Commande /

FARD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH this 4th of January 1611.

To the Right Hono^{ble} my very good lo: the Earle of Salisbury lo: high Treſorour of England: theiſ. 4. January 1611. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to my lord.

SIR FERDINANDO GORGES TO ROBERT TRELAWNY.⁶²³

AFTER my verie heartie Co^menda^{ti}ons: vpon a late peti^{ti}on exhibited to his Ma^{tie} in the name of the Merchaunts tradinge w^hin the ſtraits & other partes to the ſouthward humblye repreſenting to his princely confidera^{ti}on, the infynitt ſpoyles latelie done vpon his good ſubie^{ct}s, by pyrats & ſea rovers, wch are now growen vnto ſuch an heigh & force, as that they haue w^hin theſe fewe yeeres, taken from
this

⁶²³ Robert Trelawny was the father of the Robert mentioned later on in this correſpondence. He was a native of St. Germaines, in the county of Cornwall, and was bound to ſerue an apprenticeship with George Burgoyne for eight years, namely, from 1578 to 1586, during which time he was to be employed in Spain, Portugal, and France, and to be made free of the corporation of Fiſhmongers of London. He became a ſucceſſful merchant, and "THRICE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH," as an ancient inſcription in the Poorhouſe near St. Andrew's Church, where he was buried, long informed the world. He was Mayor in 1607, when the Popham colony

left Plymouth harbor, and in the old records of the next year is written, "An extreme dearth of corn happened this year, by reaſon of extreme froſts (as the like were never ſeen) the winter going before, which cauſed much corn to fall away, &c." He was re-elected in 1616, and ten years later was again re-elected to fill the place left vacant by Thomas Sherwill, who, ſhortly after taking the chair, fell a victim to the plague then raging. Robert Trelawny himſelf was alſo ſwept away by the dread peſtilence before the year expired, and Abraham Colmer was elected to fill the chair twice made vacant within the limit of a ſingle municipal year.

this nation of England and Scotland, aboue three hundred fayle of shippes w^h their Lading & Merchaundize, besides the Captiving of many hundreds of his Ma^{tie} said subiects, to the vtter Ruyne of themselves their wives & children, not onlie to the ympouerishing & weakening of this his Realmes, but to the ymbasing & dishonoring of the whole nation. In regard whereof, they humblie prayed some speedie course might be taken for suppressing of those py-ratts, to the securitie of the petiçoners from farther spoyle hereafter, His Ma^{tie} in his heighnes wisdome, apprehending the dangerous consequence thereof, & tending aboue all to the preservaçon of the goods, liberties, & liues, of his subiects, did seriouſlie reco^mend the said petiçon, to the Consideraçon of the Lords of his Councell, whoe for the publique & waightie respect thereof, did both willinglie entertaine, & carefully look into the meaines how to giue satisfacçon in that behalfe, And therevpon did by waye of preparayçon cause a conference to be had w^h the merchants of London, where I was likewise required to be, (having alsoe complained of the Miseries these parts hath enduered in that kind,) at w^h tyme after a leardg dispute, and geⁿall resoluçon by all of the necessitie of the service there was a free and cheerefull offer made, by the Merchants & owners belonging to the said Cyttie of London, of ffortie thousand pownds, to be Leavyed towards the advancement of the meaines, whereby to free the seas of those publique enemyes of Co^mon Co^merce, And Co^mission giuen vnto me, to deale w^h the merchants, owners, and others of these parts (whose losses hath byn noe wayes inferiour to any one part of the Realme, that hath vsed these seas) that amongst them there

may be some such competent furtherance afforded, as standeth wth the necessitie of the service, yo^r own fastie, and the publique good of the Co^mon wealthe, In w^{ch} I cannot be p^swaded that there is any honest or well affected to eyther, that will be unwilling to add what lieth in his power. But for that I ame speedily to make retorne, of the succeffe of my p^{re}cedings in this service, & because I haue appointed certaine of the princypall Merchaunts out of other partes, to meete me at Eton this next Sessions, about the same cause, I ame to praie & likewise by virtue of the said authority to requir yo^w to call vnto yo^w these of yo^r Towne, to whome yo^w may ympart the Contence thereof, & receyving their resolucons what they will willingly doe, towards the advancement of soe worthey & so necessarye a service, (retorne me their aunfweere) assuring my selfe there will be no lesse furtherance giuen from the well affected of this place, then from any other of noe greater meaines whatsoever, and what resteth more for me to doe, to the further satisfacon of yo^w all, I will be ready to performe, to the uttermost of my power, as he that will for ever rest,

Yo^r verie loving friend /

FARD: GORGES.

Aprill the 19: 1617

End: To the wo^{ll} my very louing friend M^r Robert Trelawny, Mayor of the Towne of Plymouth, these.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, James I., Vol. XCII. No. 92.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

RIGHT HO^{RBLE} According vnto your Lo^{ips} directions of the 4th of Aprill, I haue had Conference with the Merchaunts & owners

owners of shippes of this Countie, concerning the ouerture made for the suppressing of the Turkish pirats of Aigeere and Tunis, who after diuers metings and seuerall deliberacions, weere still perplexed with the difficultie of the busines, who cannot be perswaded, that a smale fleete ymployed from hence, (as they are of opinion is intended) can by any meaines effect ought worthey the greates of the charge it will amount vnto, besids they find themselues much affected of euery side, both for that they are contynewally robbed and spoyled by those sea rouers, and thrust out of all trade, in a manner by the Londoners, whome they are fory to see, that after soe many incrochements upon the rest of the subjects, and soe greate an Infinit treasures gotten into their possessions, togeather with the comerce and trade of the whole world, they should resolute to aduance this soe noble and soe worthey a designe, but with forty thousand pownds, a proportion very short (of what they Conceiue becomes them in such a case to haue done/ neyther is it the least greife that hath affected them, that at the same Instant, that some of the Townes weere in deliberacion with themselues, how they might satisfie your lo^{ips} expectacions, They understode of a letter that was sent from S^r William Garewaye,⁶²⁴ to the Customers, forbidding any entrey to be taken of cotten wolls, cotten yarne, galls, and many other Commodities, vsually brought out of the Straits, by any that weere not of the leuant Company, w^{ch} hath wouderfully discouraged those of the better sort, from meddling any more in busines of
that

⁶²⁴ Sir William Garroway, or, as frequently spelled, Garway, belonged to a family conspicuous in English annals.

He was knighted by King James at Theobalds, July 19th, 1615.

that kind, and it is noe fmale amazement to the whole multitude that hath made any profiet that waye, the owners not knoweing how to ymploy their fhipps, nor the merchaunts what retornes to make, for the fifh that they did vfe to fend into thofe places aunfweerable to their aduentures, of thofe things the humblie defire that yo^r lo^{ips} will be pleased to take notice, & to vouchsafe yo^r ho^{rble} fauours for their prefent releife therein.

And as for the clearing of the feas of thofe co^mon enemies they likewise defire that yo^r lo^{ips} may be pleased to underftand, that there are noe Subjects more willing to aduance it with their beft meaines then they are, but yet they are of opinion, (vnder correction) that there is noe foe fayre a way to accomplifh it, as to prohibite the merchaunts from all manner of trade with the Turcks, and to call home the Leger⁶²⁵ that is there, wth their feruants, and factors, wherefoeuer fited in thofe parts, and foe to refolue to make the warr by fea or land, as occation fhall ferue, in this cafe the hopes are foe many, and the waye foe plaine, as they are affured, his Ma^{tie} fhall find the Merchaunts and owners of thefe parts, noe waies inferior to any of their condition, throughout the whole kingdome, and this currant (may it please yo^r lo^{ips}) howfoeuer propounded by the Merchaunts, is in common opinion foe applauded (as if it fort with yo^r lo^{ips} more grauer wifdoms) and that it may by yo^r goodnes be aduanced, there is noe queftion but there are many in this County, that will prefently ymploy the greateft part of their fortunes vpon thefe aduentures, vpon other conditions
they

⁶²⁵ The refident ambaffador.

they cannot be perfwaded vnto any thing by any meaines, yt is true it becometh not any here to direct yo^r wifdomes that are there, yet it is my duety fully to relate what I haue receiued in this kind, and to leaue the fucceffe to gods prouidence, and yo^r lo^{ips} fauourable accepta^ons, vnto whome I ame in duety bound to reft in all feruice,

Yo^r lo^{ipps} moft humbly to be Comaunded /

FARD : GORGES.

from PLYMOUTH, the 16. July 1617.

End: To the right ho^{rble} the Lords, of his Ma^{ties} moft ho^{rble} priuy Councell, at y^e Courte theife . . . Auguft 1617 A letter from Sr Fardinando Gorges to the lordes, / Concerninge the bufines of fuppeffinge the Pyratts of Argier and Tunis.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, James I., Vol. CV. No. 140. I.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE EARL OF BATH.

MY MOST HONO^{BLE} LO: The generall rumors of forraine preparations requirs me in the difcharge of my duetie, humbly to recommend vnto your lo^{ips} honorable confidera^on, the many decayes and defect^s that along peace and want of ordinary reparations hath made in this his Ma^{te}: forte and Iland neere Plym^outh, as well as the weaknes of our guards, being farr unable to withftand the defignes of foe great pouers, in refpect whereof I moft humbly befech your good lo^{ip} to be pleased to confider how neceffary it is, fome prefent courfe fhould be taken for the reperation and fupply thereof with all expedition, by the ayde and meaines of the countrey, vntill fuch tyme as their lo^{ips} to whome I haue formerly

formerly written in that behalfe shall giue directions how it may be done, with out the farther trouble of yo^r lo^{ip} or the countrey, And the things that I presently desire of your lo^{ip} is a hundred pynars or labourers for the repaying the breaches and ruyns of the Iland especyally: and one hundred musketers to make good the defences, and if it be possible prouisions for the buyldings of lodgings, stoorehowses, and courtes of guardes, both for them and such other numbers as the necessity of the seruice shall occasion to be sent thether, and this busines being of the greatest consequence of any other in these partes, I doubt not but that yo^r lo^{ip} will vouchsafe the expediting thereof, for preuention of those euills that may ensue the neglect, and therefore seasing farther to trouble your lo^{ip} herein, I rest in all seruice,

Yo^r lo^{ips} most humbly to be comāunded /

FARD: GORGES.

from PLYMOUTH the 22th of February 1618.

End: To the right ho^{ble} my very good lo: the Earle of Bath, or, lo: Liueteynant of the Countye of Deuon these. 22 Feb: 1618. From S^r Fardinando Gorges touching the repaying of the Castle neere Plymouth.

SIR FERDINANDO GORGES ET AL. TO ROBERT TRELAWNY.

M^r MAYOR vpon a refference of a petiçon preferred to S^r Richard Hutton Knight,⁶²⁶ one of his Ma^{ties} Justices of Affise,
by

⁶²⁶ Sir Richard Hutton was one of the Justices of the King's Bench. He was an excellent lawyer, and a man of inflexible character, which won for him the title of "The honest judge." He was extremely modest, and so averse to having his virtues paraded in public, that he particularly requested that no sermon should be preached at his funeral.

by a poore man of your Towne Charles Keddewe wee haue had conference with M^r Barons whome wee did conceiue the busines did in some fort conferne, and vnderstand by him that the Towne standeth ingaged by their words to discharge him of all demaunds of the said petitioner, for so the mayor and others promised vpon the conclusion of those controuerfies betweene the said M^r Barons and them, (as he affirmeth) In Consideraçon whereof, you may be pleased to take it to yo^r farther examinaçon, and to see amongst yourselves how it may be concluded wthout more trouble than needes must to eyther partie, wherein we doubt not, but you will haue acharable respect to the distressed estate of the poore plaintife, that is not farther able to contest then by petiçon, the w^{ch} we referr to yo^r good affection, and so eyther to returne vs yo^r aunswere or otherwise to conclude it, according to equitie amongst you, w^{ch} wee leaue to yo^r best liking, and so rest

Yo^r very louing friends /

FARD: GORGES.

RY: EDGCUMBE.⁶²⁷

7ber y^e xth 1619.

End: To the right wo^{ll} M^r Nicholas Sherwill,⁶²⁸ Mayor of the Towne of Plymouth, these.

(State

⁶²⁷ Sir Richard Edgecombe, of Mount Edgecombe, near Plymouth, was interested in the colonial schemes of Gorges, and one of the charter members of the Council. Though a man of great influence, he appears to have held aloof from all political complications, and so

avoided the dangerous waters which engulfed so many of his friends. He died March 23d, 1638.

⁶²⁸ Nicholas Sherwell succeeded Colmer as Mayor of Plymouth in 1628. He had filled the chair in 1618, and in 1637 was again re-elected.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, James I., Vol. CXXIII. No. 101.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY CALVERT.

RIGHT HO^{BLE} Yt was my chance to be at my lo: of Bath wth the Barnestable men about our affaires of Newe England when the lords letters came unto my hands, so as I could not returne any aunswere before I came backe, that I might examyne those perticulers that I fownd necessary to giue your ho: satisfacōn in, And I do acknowledge my selfe much bound to your ho: for your fauoure in giuing me cause thereby the better to discharge my dutie, for by it I haue taken occasion to looke into the affairs of france, wth a more diligent respect then otherwise I should haue done, although your ho: may be pleased to remember that heretofore yt seemed unto me there was cause enough to suspect the worse, but I was growne fearefull to agrauate any thing in that kind, les being a man of warr yt might be thought I was willing rather to put the world in combustion, then that there was reason to beleue my suggestions. But now to satisfie your ho: for the shippes that are under the Comāund of the Baron de Couldrey, they are belonging to the duke de Neueres⁶²⁹ (as he saith) and weere prepared to goe against the Turks, but haue bin this two moneths in the pay and seruice of the french king. they weere furnished and set out of New haven, where they tooke in 12. peices of Cannon, wth their carrages, and prouision for land seruices, As also 8000. musketts, of Cosletts and piks great store, one hundred

⁶²⁹ Charles de Gonzague, Duc de Nevers, made Duke of Mantua in 1627. He died September 22d, 1637.

hundred tunne of powder, fortie tune of match, 50: thousand waight of bullets, wth great quantitie of spades and pikeaxes, wth basketts and other necessaries for pinars.⁶³⁰ And therewas in the whole fleete as some reporte 250: Irish fouldiers, whereof one Company was ymbarked in this shipp wth their Cap^t and officers, whose names I haue here wth sent, togeather wth the names of the most eminent persons amongst them, as I could conveniently come to the knowledg of them; And it seemes to be confidently beleiued, that as sone as the french king hath brought vnder his subjection those of Rochell, dismantled the other Townes of defence, and disarmed all those of the religion, they will convert their forces to the farther aduancement (as the terme it) of the Catholik cause, and subuersion of the Turks; Yt is a faire Couller I confesse, but it is to be doubted euery thing Considered that there are some euill Instrum^{ts} amongst them, who to serue their owne ends, seeks vnder that banner to renewe the Auncyent quarrell betweene these nations of England and france, so much the soner for that they feare what will be the successe of the happy vnion of both our nations vpon all futer occasions that may arise, for prevention whereof they may haue reason to laye hold of the present oportunitie, seing the kings Ma^{tie} likly to be ingaged so many other wayse, and at this present so meainely prouided to make oposion, and finding in the kingdome of Ireland so many discontents ready to break out vpon the lest hope of seconds, but yet, it may be the coles may be kindled first, by some perticulers, such as is the Duke of Neueres, or some ymployed vnder his name for other designs that shalbe directed to

rune

runne the hazard of the attempt, if it succede as they desire, they will not be to seeke of Cullarable causes to Justifie their doings, howsoever they can but render what they shall get, and that not before they can keepe it any longer; but in the meane tyme the misery will be great that will follow the making of warr after a long peace, with an vndisciplined army vnfurnished and unprouided of all things necessary for those seruices. But of these perticulers I dare not presume to say any more vntill farther occasion presents it selfe, only I wish the worst may speedely be preuented, by furnishing the places of defence vpon all his heighnes Coasts, arming of the Subjects and supplying his stores, things of no great charge if it be done in tyme, if deferred, it may happen to come to late, or peraduenture not to be gotten for money, yt hath alwayes bin taken to be a principall parte of wisdom to provide in peace for warr, and now wee see all our neightbours about vs in armes, some offensive, some defensive, if those wee take at this present to be our friends should be defeyted, how is it possible but that wee should beleue the victorious Cap^t will perseue his fortunes euen vpon the friends of his enimies, And so not seise vntill he hath made all before him willing to receiue the law at his hands, but I assure my selfe their lo^{ps} are so prouident and so full of knowledg what belongs vnto these things, as they will not omitt any tyme or oportunitie to do what so waighty a busines requires, only I humbly crave pardon, if I haue presumed to wade farther then becomes me in this subject, Euen so Comytting yo^r ho: to gods holy protection I euer rest in all service /

Your ho^{rs} humble to be Comaunded /

As

As I had Concluded this letter, I vnder stood that one of the Squadran belonging to the Baron de Couldrey, that went from hence the 3th of this Instant, being shippes of 500: tune, (and had in her 400: mariners and souldiers) is lately put into falmouth, although they haue had the wind fayre, to haue gone when they had pleased.

FARD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH the 11th of Nouember 1621.

End. To the right ho^{ble} S^r George Caluert knight principall secretary to the kings most excellent Ma^{tie} at y^e Court theise. 1621. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to M^r Secr: Caluert.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, James I., Vol. CLIX. No. 22.)

SIR F. GORGES TO BUCKINGHAM.⁶³¹

MAYE IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE Fearing that I cannot obteyne soe speedy a recourse to your Graces presence, as I conceyve, were convenient both for the dischardg of my dutie, and your Graces satisfaction, I haue presumed in theise fewe lines to let your Grace to knowe, that I haue latelie receyved feuerall advertisments of a generall Staye that is made in Spaine of all fortes of Shippes, and a greate and extraordinarye preparaçon for a navall attempt, wherein is to be
imbarked

⁶³¹ George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, was one of the most elegant and dissolute men of his age. His personal beauty, it is said, was the cause of his wonderful influence with James, who gave him the familiar title of Stenny, the diminutive of Stephen. The course of reasoning which led to this appellation is worthy the addled brain of the British Solomon, who, quoting Acts vi. 15,

where it is said that the Council, looking steadfastly at Stephen, "saw his face as it had been the face of an angel," declared that Buckingham's face appeared like the face of an angel to him, and put him in mind of this passage in Holy Writ. He certainly possessed no other likeness to the martyr. He fell by the hand of Felton, an enthusiast, August 23d. 1628.

imbarked extraordinarie numbers of lande forces with munition, ordinñce Armes, and other provifions fitt for a Royall Inuafion. And althoughe it be knowne to euery man of meane Judgment, that he hath caufe fufficient to afemble his beft forces, to withftand and make good, the feverall occafions he hath in hande, both upon his owne Coaft, and otheres his Teritoryes more remote: yet when we fhall call to our confideraçons, the prefent ftate of ours and his af-fayers, the difguftes that is taken of either parte, the doubtēs he conceyves of our prefent refoluçons to be righted of the wronges receyved and the difadvantages he muft fuffer by making himfelfe a defendant that knowes his owne weaknes in y^t kinde, and whoe hath for prevençon thereof endeavored by all meanes, to continewe himfelfe an affailante, as well knowinge the difference betweene the one and the other, together with the obfervaçon that is made of the factions and parties he hath raifed both in Ireland and England, whoe within theife fewe yeares are growne to that hedd in every quarter that they are not onelye become infolent and vn-sufferable to particulars, but moft daungerous to the publique peace of theis Realmes, and therefore it is undoubtedly conceived that there is a prefente purpofe in him to imbroile fome of his Ma^{ties} Realmes, if a tymely courfe be not taken for a fpedie prevention thereof And althoughe I acknowledge it to be my dutie from tyme to tyme to advertife your Grace of theife and the like occurrantes as they fhall happen to fall out: yet I haue forborne to be too forward in this kinde fearinge lefte I might be thoughte rather to defire occafion of trouble, then to endeuo^r to quench a flaminge fyer. But feeinge (if my Judgment be anye thinge) a moft eminent
declaraçon

declaraçon of daunger to enfewe I should doubt of myne owne Loyaltie if I did not offer the same to your Graces farther consideraçon upon whose shoulders a greate parte of the burden of the goode succeffe of o^r Nation doth presently depend, and whoe must resolute to giue an accompte for the succeffe thereof as occasion shall require what ought speedelie to be done in this case I dare not presume to aduise lest it might be thought I were more forward then discreet, specially for that I haue not had the happines to be soe well knowen to your Grace as to others that hath helde the same Helme that is nowe in yo^r present handes; whoe hath oft tymes, required my service in matters of this nature as well as did her late Ma^{tie} whoe sometymes thought my opinion not vnworthye to be harkened unto. Onely this I hope I maye without offence conclude. That as the kinge of Spaine assembles his best forces and makes his greatest provisions be it for defence or offence: Soe we haue noe lesse reason then Soloman had in tyme of peace, to prepare for warr, but wee are soe farr from Solomans prouidence in this kinde as that our Fortes and defences are not onely in rewen but indeed without all meanes of defence upon the leaste occasion or attempt much lesse againest a Royall invading Armye. Nay my good Lorde I protest that theye are in soe base and unworthye a manner provided for, as for myne owne parte I am not onely ashamed of that in my charge but greiued to the harte to thinke that I shoulde liue to see it soe, which in dischardge of my dutie I haue presumed to acquaint your Grace whoe (as Captaine Generall of all of that kinde) maye the better knowe how fitt it weare that present order maye be giuen for speedie redresse.

To

To whose wifdome I humbly refer the farther confideraçon of all, and with like humilitie craue pardon for my prefent prefumption if I haue ftrayed beyonde the boundes of good manners, or prefumed more uppon your pacience then I had caufe. Yet if this may finde a fauorable acceptation it fhall be an encouragment to me to make tender of my beft endevors in a more free manner hereafter, and binde me for euer to reft

Your Graces humblie to be comāunded in all dutifull fervice /

FERD: GORGES.

LONDON this viijth of Feb: 1623.

End: For his Maties fpeciall feruice. To his excellent Lord the Duke of Buckingham his Grace Lord highe Admirall of England at the Court giue theife with fpeede. St. Ferd: Gorge touching preparations in Spaine. 1623.

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

S^r I haue a defire to haue Captaine Gilles goe Captaine of my Shipp in the imployment fhee is nowe vpon, but Con- fideringe wth my Selfe the manie occasions that there is to make vfe of men of experience and valour I thought it my dutie, firft of all humbly to acquainte my Lord Duke's grace therewth to whom it fpeciallie belongs to receaue notes of matters of that Nature, and firft to receaue his graces allowance therein as allfoe his fauorable Comyffion for his better Warrant boeth for the comāund of the Companey and Dif- charge of his dutie accordinge to the Articcles agreed vpon,
and

and for that I knowe your oppertunytie and accesse to his Grace to be more easie then myne, I am bould to desire yo^r fauour and helpe for the obtayneinge his Graces pleasure herein and I will hould it as a speciall fauour from you amongest others formemerly receaued, and euer rest in what I am

Yo^r assured ffrend to serue you : FARD : GORGES.

From aboard the Neptune this : 4 : of Maie : 1625 :

Add : To my much honored ffrend S^r John Cooke knight one of the M^{rs} of requests to his most excellent Ma^{tie} give theese / End : by Sir J. Coke. 1625
May 4 S^r Ferdinand Gorges To haue Cap^t Giles comānd his Shipp.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. II. No. 86.)

SIR F. GORGES TO CONWAY.⁶³²

MAYE ITT PLEASE YO^R LO^P I perceauē the French Embassador, hath receaued strange informaçons, of many defects and wants I should haue contrary to my Covenānts, and agreement made wth hym ; And seeing he hath complayned as much unto his Ma^{tie} and to the Lords, I wishe that there were an Invoyce taken by Comission directed from their Lo^{ps} wherby the truth maye the better appeere, as well for the discharge of my reputaçon, as the sattisfaçon of the lo :
Embassador

⁶³² Sir Edward Conway was the son of Sir John Conway, and was one of the many knights created by Essex for military achievements. He commanded a regiment at the sacking of Cadiz in 1596, and it was his distinguished services on that occasion which won for him the honor of knighthood. He subsequently served in the Netherlands,

and was Governor of the Brill. On the accession of James, he sought civil employment, and became one of the principal Secretaries of State in 1622. He was retained in office by Charles I., who advanced him to the peerage of England and Ireland, under the titles of Viscount Conway and Killultagh. He died in 1630.

Embassador Itt is true, that in attempting to come downe wth more haste then good speed, she was twice grounded, and was by so much tyme hyndered, after that she brake two of her bogue Anchors, and was forced to staye the repaying of them, since w^{ch} she hath attended nothing butt the opportunity of wynde, w^{ch} itt seemes his Lo^p thincks rather my fault then Gods providence Thus much I thought itt my duty to give yo^r lo^p a taste of before my coming upp, w^{ch} shalbe wthout delaye So I rest in all duty

Yo^r lo^{ps} humble servant to be comaunded/

FERD: GORGES.

From aboard the Neptune belowe GRAUESEND: 23^d Maij 1625.

End: To the right Hono^{ble} my much honored Lord, the Lord Connawaye, principall Secretary to his Most excellent Ma^{tie} att the Court give these. May 23. 1625. A lre to M^r Secre Conway from S^r Fer: Gorge touching the French Amb^r

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. IV. No. 37.)

SIR F. GORGES, &C. TO SECRETARY CONWAY.

RIGHT HONORABLE: For that wee haue maney reasons to suspecte, there was a resolucon in some principall officers of Sea: men: of his most Christian Ma^{tie} ⁶⁸³ to dispossesse us of o^r shippes and goods, and foe to make themfelues masters of them and us, contrary to the condiçons concluded upon, by our Charter part; and for that wee are uncertayne how far forth that designe might haue trenched into the lynes & fasties of our selues and o^r people; Or other wayes haue touched upon the duties & alegence wee owe unto o^r Soueraigne Lord the Kinges most excellent

⁶⁸³ Louis XIII. of France.

lent Ma^{tie} to whom the principall care & interest doth most
belonge:/ wee haue thought it fitt in the ciuillest mano^r wee
could for the p̄sent to quite the coast of France and in the
meane while humbly to desire yo^r Hono^r that some such
course maye be taken for o^r farther securityes as should bee
thought fitt in his Ma^{ties} royall wisdome, for wee see it is not
sufficient for us to haue anie m̄chants tyed for the p̄form-
ance of anie thinge Concluded upon, betweene the feate of
a Souaigne Ma^{tie} & that of simple subjects, in as much
as wee p̄ceauē already the m̄chants that were undertakers
for o^r security, were prohibited, from disburfinge o^r wages
due unto us (but at their pills), if soe, then what hope
remaines for us that wee shalbe fairely delt wthall, when all is
in their handes, and wee turned ouer to be fuiters for o^r re-
compence of damages, In reward of o^r great Charge & losse
sustayned, and under Correction, wee cannot but marvell they
should desire to put aney such extraordinary numbers of
theirs aboard us, as they haue offered when they hyer us as
men of warr, But that they doe ether suspec^te our valoure,
our fidelities, or Abilities, to p̄forme anie thinge to be re-
quired of us, if soe, Then this is not the way to giue them
their ends, they ayme at, for from suspected persons, or per-
sons under guard, they must looke for nothinge ells, but
practises continually aryfinge thorowe Jelousies or misinter-
pretacons of all actions or accidents that shall happen Ef-
pecially when it is betweene Nations of feuerall language
and feuerall Religion, (such as wee are) and therefore to
prevent all euills of this kinde, (under favor) wee conceaue
it much better that they should giue us leaue, To serue them
wth o^r owne forces, And soe to subject o^r selues onely to the

Comandes & direcc̃ons of fuch their Admiralls or Generalls as ſhalbe aſigned to haue the Charge of the ſervice, as heretofore was accuſtomed when wee ſerved them in anie their warrs, if then, anie omiſſion or fault were Comitted by us or aney of us, lett the offendo^r ſuffer Condingly for it, accordinge to the Lawes and Cuſtomes of all Nations, ſoe ſhall they be free from givinge us cauſe of offence, & wee from excuſe, (if wee pforme not o^r duties, Ether accordinge to o^r Covenants, or accordinge to the lawes, and orders wee ſubmitt o^rſelues to obey when wee ſhall be joyned to the reſt of the Fleete or to be devided into a Squadron by o^rſelues at the Generalls pleaſure, but howe ſoeuer there wilbe noe-thinge more looked for by us, then that wee maye be made (in ſome fort) acquainted wth the Enemy againſt whom wee are to bee ymployed, That wee may make o^r proviſions accordingly, both in reſpecte of the coaſte wee are to keepe, and the meanes wee are to uſe offensive or deffenſive, As well as for the health & comfort of o^r people, And to take order for ſupplies duringe the tymes of our ymployments, under his moſt Chriſtian Ma^{tie}, And for ſufficient proviſions for our home comeinge, when wee ſhalbe diſcharged from thence, all w^{ch} wee referre to yo^r lo^{pp} more graue and ſerious confidera^{cion} and euer reſt:

Yo^r lo^{pp} in all humble Seruice to be Comanded:

FERD: GORGES.

PETER WHITE.

ANTHONY TUTCHEN.

JESPER DARE.

dated this 11th of July 1625.

End : To the Right Hono^{ble} our verye good Lord the Lord Conway principall Secretary to the kinges moſt excellent Ma^{tie} / 11th of July 1625. Captaines of ſhipps (lent to the Chriſtian King) to the lord Conway alleadging many reaſons not to bee expoſed to the command of the French as by them is intended. (State

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. IV. No. 107.)

DECLARATION OF SIR F. GORGES, &C.

WEE y^e Owners & Captaines of y^e Englishe ships hired for y^e service of his most Chriān Ma^{tie} are come hither in obedience to o^r Soūaigne lo: y^e king, whose pleasure it is wee should give all content unto his most Xpiān Ma^{tie}, w^{ch} wee most humbly have & doe obey; but we hope it is conceived that as we are Owners & masters of o^r owne Goods, soe it will not be thought unlawfull or unfitting that we make o^r owne reasonable Conditions before we depart wth them, as alsoe that we free o^rselves from those questions & troubles we are now in.

First therefore wee desire to be freed from those Advantages may be taken against us by reason of y^e protest published ag^t us by the Marquis d'effiat⁶³⁴ Ambdo^r extraordinary for his said Chriān Ma^{tie} & that to be donne immediately & wthout more delay that we may the better & more securely treat upon what is else to followe for y^e satisfac^{ti}on of both kinges. Next that wee may have p^rsent security for y^e safe dele^{vi}ny of o^r Shipps to us againe, & satisfac^{ti}on for o^r enterteynm^t, & y^e security wee p^rsently demand (if his most Xtiān Ma^{tie} intend to be put into possession of o^r Shipps) is
mon[nie]

⁶³⁴ Antoine Coffier de Ruzé, Marquis d'Effiat, was born in 1581. He was ambassador to the Court of James, and played an important rôle in the negotiations which led to the marriage of

Henrietta of France with Charles I. For his valuable services to the French crown he was created a marshal of France. He died at Lorraine, July 27th, 1632.

mon[nie] to be deposited in y^e Chamber of London wthout Revocaõn, p^rtraçcon or other impedim^t, & that we may still receive it as it shall grow due : [for what] wee doe, for that y^e form^l security of Merchants stands us in noe stede, because wee have found by experience there is stopp made of o^r pay, & we know not how to right o^rselves in it.

Lastly for that y^e shippes of Engl: are understood by o^r state to be y^e fortresses & publique defence of that kingdom, & that y^e deliv^y of them into y^e hands of any forreine prince or State concerns not lesse y^e lives of y^e deliv^{rs}, then if they should render any other place of publique defence put into their hands: wee most humbly desire for o^r freedoms & securityes in that behaulf, we may have full & ample warraunt & authority under y^e broade Seale of England for our full dischardge, as alsoe that we may be freed from Bonds wee stand bound in for y^e not alienating of any o^r Ordn^{ce}, & that we may not be questioned for y^e same by any lawe alredy made, or to be made hereafter. And further if it be demaunded why we are more Cautious now more then att o^r first drawing of o^r Articles, wee aunsw^{re}are, because these Articles were drawne by Co^mmission^{rs}, & these are to be donne by o^r i^mmediat selves, the first being wholly broken.

And for that we desire there be noe further delay or p^rtraçcon of tyme on o^r ptes, wee whose names are hereunto subscribed have thought fitt to entreate o^r worthy & beloved freind Bassett Cole gen^t in o^r behaulf & for us to p^rsent this above written to y^e R^t ho^l y^e Marquis d'effiat And wee give further unto y^e said Bassett Cole full power & authority to
treate

treate uppon the Conclusion of all y^e said former Articles:
In [witnefs whereof we] hereunto fett o^r hands/

FERD : GORGES.⁶³⁵

Cap ^{ts} & Masters.	{	ANTH : TUTCHEN.
		JAMS MAYER.
		HEN : JURER.
		THO : HARIES.
		JASP : DRID.
		JOHN HARIES for myself & pet : WHITE.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. IV. No. 88.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE KING.

MOST GRATIOUS SOUERAIGNE: Seeinge the French Embassadour hath broken the former contractes made wth us for the inplyments of our Shipp, and that hee hath foe far forth prevailed wth yo^r Ma^{tie} that they are agayne to returne to Deepe, where hee pmiffeth to giue all content for our further satisfac^{con}, I shall humbly desire that it will please your Ma^{tie} I maye haue leaue to goe thither in my owne Shipp, the better to conclude for what I conceaue to be fitt in hono^r and Justice, and that I may giue such secondes to the rest of the Captaines and Owners as they desire to re-
ceau

⁶³⁵ It will be noticed that up to a certain point the abbreviation *Fard.* appears in the signatures of these letters, and then, uniformly, *Ferd.* At first I was disposed to make them uniform; but upon a careful examination of nearly all of the earlier signatures, the letter

a appeared unmistakable, while in the later signatures the letter *e* was equally plain; indicating that Sir Ferdinando at a certain period deliberately adopted the more modern form of spelling his Christian name.

ceaue from mee, wherein it maie bee I shall haue the oppertunitie to doe your Ma^{tie} that service that becomes mee to pforme, and be a meanes to prevent the euills that other waies maie infue the losse of such an occasion and wthall that yo^r Ma^{tie} wilbe pleased gratioufly to giue order to my lord Treasurer that I maie receaue my owne meanes, wthout more delayes, to p^rvent the starvinge of yo^r Ma^{ties} seruice, and the ruin of my felfe and my owne fortunes, for all w^{ch} I will for euer rest in all humblenes

Yo^r Ma^{ties} most dutifull and most obedient Servant /

FERD: GORGES.

Written this 19th of July: 1625.

End: Julie 19. 1625. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to his Ma^{tie} / To haue leaue to goe wth his owne shipp, and the rest over to Diepe /

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. IV. No. 89.)

SIR F. GORGES TO BUCKINGHAM.

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r GRACE: Seeinge the shippes are againe to returne for Deepe, I humbly desire to goe thither my felfe that I may see the conclusion of their p^rmisses, for our satisfac^tions that are interessed in it, I haue written to the same effecte unto his Ma^{tie}, and shall humbly desire yo^r Grace to favor mee soe much as to giue secondes thereunto, it is possible I shalbe able to giue content soe much the better to yo^r Graces desires, w^{ch} I finde to be full of hono^r and worth; if I faile in anie thinge, it shall be want of power not zeall to bring it to passe and as soone as I returne I will attend yo^r Grace

Grace at Plimouth, and be ready wth all I haue to approue
my felfe /

Yo^r Graces humblest seruant / FERD : GORGES.

Written this 19th of July : 1625.

End : To his most Excellent Lord the Duke of Buckingham his Grace: Julie 19.
1625. St. Ferdinando Gorges to my lo Duke To haue leaue to goe wth the
shippes to Diepe.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. IV. No. 138.)

NICHOLAS TO SIR F. GORGES AND THE MASTERS OF THE
MERCHANTMEN.

Aboarde the good shipp y^e Neptune
this 28th of July : 1625: ST: ANGL:

I AM sent hither by my lo^d & master y^e Duke of Bucking-
ham (Lo: highe Admiⁿ of England) to see y^e execu^con &
pformaunce of his Ma^{ts} pleasure (signified by l^re from my
lo: Conwey:) And doe crave yo^r direct Aunfweare in
wrighting under yo^r hands, whether yo^u will (according to
my lo: Conweys l^re, & uppon the Caution & Security w^{ch}
was agreed on & parafaited att Rochester by the three lo^{ds}
Ambdo^{rs} of Fraunce & by them deli^ued to my lord who
co^mmitted it to me as y^e security I was to take) deliver ou^{er} yo^r
shippes to be disposed of by y^e most Christian king or noe: If
yo^u will pforme this, I shalbe redy to make knowne yo^r
obedience, & will pcure yo^u a sufficient dischardge to yo^r
Contentm^t:/

EDW: NICHOLAS.⁶³⁶

For

⁶³⁶ Sir Edward Nicholas was the
eldest son of John Nicholas of Wilt-
shire, and was born April 4th, 1593.
By diligence and perfeverance he rose

from a Chancery clerkship to be Princi-
pal Secretary of State and Privy Coun-
cillor. He died September 1st, 1669.

For absolute anfwere to the demands aboue written wee say that wee haue a desire to giue all content & satisfactio in this buyfines to his most Xſtriā Ma^{tie} & the Marquis d'Effiat his Ma^{ties} Amb: in obedience to the cõmands receaved frō our ſoveraigne & our L: Admirall: but for the ſecurity (w^{ch} wee never agreed unto) tendered unto us & parefainted by the three Amb^{rs} of France⁶³⁷ at Rocheſter (albeit wee acknowledge it to bee very honorable & worthy there greatnes) yet under correctiō wee holde it not competent & ſafe for us to accept thereof & therefore doe abſolutely reſuſe to deliver our ſhips on the ſame: But doe humbly pray if it bee intended by the L. Amb: that our ſhips ſhould ſerve his moſt Xſtiā Ma^{stie} that ſuch cautiō may bee given us as may ſort wth the quality of Merchands to deale in: that is to ſay to haue ſecurity given us by ſufficient Merchands at Paris to bee transferred to Londō irrevocable & ſuch as may not bee protected by the prerogative or authority of the Princes of any ſtate whatſoever for w^{ch} wee moſt humbly deſire a declaratiō under the hands & ſeales of both Kings.

FERD: GORGES.
ANTHONY TUTCHEN.
JAMES MOYER.
HENRY JEWY.
THOMAS DAUIS.
JESPER DARE.
JOHN DAVIES.

Dated in the roade at DEEPE this 28th of July 1625.

End: 28^o Julij 1625. S^t: Angl: lre to y^e Capt^e & Mr^s of the 7. m̃chaunts ſhipps
& their Abſolute aunſwerre. (State

⁶³⁷ Namely, the Marquis d'Effiat, Duc de Chevreuſe, and M. Villeaucleres.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. V. No. 3.)

SIR F. GORGES TO NICHOLAS.

S^r I shall desire you to remember my Service to my lo : Embassado^r and to giue hym to understand, that I haue nowe noe more power to pfwade these people to staye heere any longer, For they finde the stormes like to come in, And the roade to be exceeding dangerous, wheruppon they conclude a necessity of their deptime for the coasts of England, where wee purpose to attend his Excellency's further pleasure and comaunds. For my pticuler I will doe the best I can to recouer Portsmouth, as the most convenient place, (as the tyme nowe is) to send and heare from the Court, and to dispatche those busnies, that you knowe is necessarily to be dispatched.

You maye further giue his Excellency to understand that I am exceeding forry, things so fall out, that itt is nott in my power to returne his respects unto me for the honor he hath done mee in my lady Marquise⁶³⁸ coming aboard, and for sending his two younge Jewells to me yesterdaye, wth his kinde and noble invitem^{ts} For all w^{ch} he shall assuredly finde I will continue to rest his humble servant, I praye you to remember my service unto my lady Marquise, wth many thancks to her hono^r, for her noble fauor, And as I expect shortly to returne agayne, so I will nott fayle (under her fauo^r) humbly to kisse her hands ashoare /
Thus

⁶³⁸ The wife of the Marquis d'Effiat.

Thus wth my loue remembred unto yo^rfelf I will continue
and rest

Yo^r assured loving Frend / FERD : GORGES.

From aboard the great Neptune in the rode of DEEPE the First of August
1625.

End: A Monfieur / Monfieur Nicholas gent Angois Secretaire de Mon Seign^r
le Duc de Buckingã Grand Amiral d'Angleterres / Laifer ces letres au logis
de Monfeign^r le Marquis d'Effiat Amb: Extraordinaire pour le Roy tres
christiene au Roy de la Grand Bretagne / A Diepe / R. 2^o August. 1625. S^r
Ferd : Gorges a moy de dire qu'il ne pouroit demeurer du ceste rude plus long
temps fans hazard /

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. V. No. 18.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY CONWAY.

MY LORD. I doubt nott, butt his Ma^{tie} will receaue sharpe
informaçons agaynst mee from the Marqueffe de Fiât, as if I
had been a violent Enimye to the affayres of his Master;
But (S^r) you shall finde the truth to be; I stood for the
Honor of my Nation, and the safety, and proffitt of myfelfe
being engaged in that ymployment a matter of tenne or
eleuen thowfand pownds, a portion too great to be hazarded
wthout iust reason or found confideration, att the least when
itt came to myne owne share to capitulate for myself, as att
the p^{re}sent itt did; For nowe I was att th' Ambaffado^{rs} de-
fire, and his Ma^{ties} comaund to refigne my shippe, and her
provisions wholly to the poffeffion of the French, uppon a
newe agreement, the first contract (made by the Comiffion-
ers) being voyde; And uppon this ground I propounded
fuch conditions for myself, and the Merchaunts then p^{re}sent,
as were conceaued to be reasonable, (namely) That we
would

would be freed from the advantages, he pretended agaynst us, by reason of his protest; And that wee might be secured for the safe deliury of our Shippes unto us agayne, and duely sattisfied our entertaynement for their employements; lastly, That we might haue sufficient warrant from his Ma^{tie} for putting our shippes into the hands of Strangers, w^{ch} we knowe to be a matter of noe meane consequence; And howsoever reasonable these conditions were thought to bee, Yett his lo^p seemed to take itt somethinge tenderly, conceaving that he had sufficiently determined all those things att Rochester, where there was some conferences betweene the three Embassadors, and two of the Masters of the shippes, att what tyme their lo^{ps} offered their owne securities, w^{ch} although itt was Hono^{ble} and becoming their greatnes, yett was itt nott receaued by the Masters (as they solemnely protest) as fitt for the quallities of merchants to accept of, yett agayne his lo^p required to be punctually sattisfied, whither we would stand to itt or nott; To the w^{ch} we as playnely answered, That although wee esteemed itt to be very hono^{ble} yett nott competent for men of our quallities to deale wth butt if he pleased to giue us security by Merchants in Paris, to be transferred from them to Merchants in London responsible, itt should sattisfye us for that perticuler, butt we likewise expected the accomplishm^t of the rest of our Articles, or otherwise wee could proceed noe further; Butt after many debatements att the last, his lo^p seemed to approue of the reasonablenes of our demaunds, And gaue me to understand by my Cossen Cole (whom I haue wholly imployed in this
busines

busines and nowe fend to yo^r lo^p wth the rest of the p^ticulers more att large) that he had sent them to Paris, and looked for a speedy answere ; So wee attended in expectation therof, In the meane while, Captⁿ Pennington ⁶³⁹ returned wth order from his Ma^{tie} for his deliuey of the Vantguard and her furniture into the hands of the Embassado^r, wth like order to hym to caufe the Merchants to doe as much, Whereat being extraordinarily pplexed for the p^rsent and finding that the Embassado^r thought by that oppertunity to be Master of my goods in dispighte of mee, and to accompt for the same att his owne will, and having itt in his power to take all advantages agaynst mee, (being now in possession of my shippe) that the quilletts of lawe would giue hym, by reason of the former protest, and assuring myself, itt could by noe meanes stand wth his Ma^{ty}s royall purpose, to ruyne his owne Subjects to pleasure strangers, As also conceaving a warrant directed to Captⁿ Penington onely, to be noe sufficient discharge for me, if after I should be questioned legally in myne owne Countrey ; I resolved to putt myself to his Ma^{ty}s mercye, for detayning my shippe, notwthstanding Captⁿ Peningtons order in that behalf, Unlesse, the Embassado^r gaue mee the security formerly propounded, w^{ch} he refused to do ; And theruppon, I tooke the oppertunity to sett fayle, giving his lo^p to understand
(before

⁶³⁹ Sir John Pennington has been extolled for piety, opennes, and generosity ; and accused of hypocrisy, treachery, and selfishness. His servile submission to Buckingham, whose tool he appears to have been on the disgraceful surrender of the English ships in 1625, as related elsewhere, certainly casts a stain

upon his character. He became governor and captain of Sandorm Castle, in Kent, and Vice-Admiral, and but for the opposition of Parliament on account of his supposed loyalty to the King, would have been made Lord High Admiral. He died, September, 1646.

(before this occasion fell out) that there was a necessity for me to goe to the Coasts of England wth my Shippe, that rode being unsafe to her to ryde, wherein we had suffered a desperate storme, wth much perrill for eight and Forty howers together; And that if these articles were accepted, the shippe should be alwayes readye to attend his lo^{ps} commaunds, the w^{ch} I am still willing to accomplish;

Now my good lord if in any thinge thus done by mee, I haue omitted what in duty or discretion I was bound to doe, I humbly craue pardon of his most royall Ma^{tie} to whose mercye and grace, I submitt myself, my life, and goods, to be disposed of according to his gracious pleasure; And for the mayntenance of whose hono^r and happinies, I will att all tymes readily render the same, And of thus much, I shall humbly desire yo^r lo^p will acquaynt his sacred Ma^{tie} in my behalf; And vouchsafe me that noble fauor, as to use yo^r best meanes to excuse my errors, And for that, as for many other yo^r hono^{ble} cares taken of me and myne, I will for euer rest,

Yo^r lo^{ps} humble servant /

FERD: GORGES.

From aboard the great Neptune off of BEACHY ⁶⁴⁰ the 5th of August 1625.

End : To the right Hono^{ble} my very good lord, the lord Connawaye principall Secretary of State, att the Court giue these. 5. August. 1625. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to the lo: Conway / Givinge a particular accompt of the reasons wherefore hee deliuered not up his shipp into the hands of the French ministers they refusinge to giue him fittinge securitie.

(State

⁶⁴⁰ Beechy Head, on the south coast of England. This was the first land Sir Ferdinando had made after escaping from the French coast, and he evidently

stopped here to dispatch these letters to the Court by his trusted kinsman, Basset Cole, who belonged to a family of high standing and influence in Devonshire.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. V. No. 19.)

SIR F. GORGES TO BUCKINGHAM.

MAYE ITT PLEASE YO^R GRACE. I haue endeouored what laye in my power to obserue yo^r Excellencyes comaunds, and was p^{sw}aded that I had brought things to reasonable heads, both for myself and the rest of the merchants, in that wee infisted vpon three propositions; The first to bee free from the Embassado^{rs} protest; Secondly to haue security for the redeliuery of our Shipps & sattisfaction of o^r paye; And lastly, to haue sufficient warrant from o^r Sou^{er}aigne lord the Kinge, for putting our Shipps into the hands of Strangers; the Marqueesse to this replied he would nott budge a tittle from the contract made att Rochester, betwixt the three Embassado^{rs} and two of the Marchants, w^{ch} contract the Merchants disclayme, And neuer gaue (they saye) their consent unto, w^{ch} appeeres by their nott signing to that the three Embassado^{rs} putt to their marcke; And ther vpon although wee (att the rode in Deepe) acknowledged the security of Rochester very hono^{ble} yett humbly refused itt and chose rather the security of merchants, as best futing wth o^r rancks and quallityes, Butt the Marqueesse entering into further treatyes wth us, att last demaunded the Valuation of our shipps, and thought o^r p^{ro}positions so reasonable, that he pretended to us he had sent them to Paris, to receaue their answere, butt being thus in expectacon of what wee were to heare from the French Court, His Ma^{ties} shippe the Vanguard came to us wth a warrant from his Ma^{ties} to render her
selfe

felfe and us to the hands of the Marqueffe, that itt feemed moſt ſtrange to us all, butt p̄ticularly to myſelfe who haue my whole eſtate in my ſhip, beſydes three thouſand poun̄ds I ſtand indebted for; So that I chooſe to putt myſelf rather uppon my moſt gracious ſoūaignes pittye and mercye both for my eſtate and life, then to giue itt unto Strangers wthout any ſatiſfaction either to my eſtate or credit, And itt will ſtand more wth the kings Hono^r, and my owne p̄ticular ſafety in future tymes (as I conceave) that his Ma^{tie} make this an act of his owne, and take my ſhipp into his owne poſſeſſion, either to be ſent by his Ma^{tie} where the French deſireth, or els to be receaued by the French heere in England att the Port where ſhee lyeth, Therefore Sir, my moſt humble Sute unto yo^r Grace is, that if I haue done otherwiſe then becom̄ed mee in this buſines, you would be pleaſed to interpret itt an error in my underſtanding nōt in my affecons and mediate to his Ma^{tie} to ſhewe unto hym, that I thincke I cannōt better diſpoſe of my goods, then to transferre them wholly to his Ma^{ts} diſpoſall; w^{ch} I humbly leaue to yo^r Graces more ſerious conſideration, to whom I deſire to approue myſelf in all humillity and Service

Yo^r Grace's moſt reſpectiue ſervant /

FERD: GORGES.

From aboard the great Neptune off of BEACHY the 5th of Auguſt 1625.

End: To his moſt excellent lord, the Duke of Buckingham his Grace lord Highe Admirall of England att the Court giue theſe / 5^y Aug: 1625. S^t Ferd: Gorges conſiding his refuſall to ſ'ue y^e French wth his ſhipp.

(State

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. V. No. 69.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY CONWAY.

RIGHT HO: I fhall entreat your Lo^p to doe mee the favour to giue mee your L^{ps} warrant, for the Master of my Ship & some of his mates to come before your Lo^p to answer to such matters, as for there severall mutinies & disorders by them committed I haue to object against them, as also the suspitiō I conceave of there practizes to runne away wth my ship, & that therefore I shall further entreat your Lo^{ps} favour, that I may haue the helpe of some of the Kings ships, men to bring myne into the harbour, because fynce my coming hither most of my men are ether sicke or prest away & I lye in danger (if a storme should come) heere in the rode, & I shall allwaies bee bound to rest.

Your lo^{ps} humble servant/ FERD: GORGES.

Fro aboard the great Neptune in Stokes Bay, August 23, 1625.

End: To the right ho: my very good Lord the Lord Conway principall Secretary to his most excellent Ma^{tie} 23. August 1625. Adm^l S^r Ferdinando Gorges. For a Warraunt for the M^r & c of his shipp to bee called to answer their mutinies, And that hee may haue assistance to bringe his shipp into the Harbo^r.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. VIII. No. 71.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

MAY YT PLEASE YO^R LO^{pps} Yt was the last of October before I receiued yo^r l^{ps} Commaund for the setting forth of my Shipp, by reason of my being in the North part of
the

the Countie, about some busines that Conserned me extraordinary, but I presumed that shee had bin long before that at the Rendevoes, shee was assigned unto by my lo: Dukes order, what the cause is of her staye any where I knowe not, but the better to giue satisfactiō to yo^r lo^{ps} I haue sent along the coast of purpose to find her out, & to take order shee spend noe tyme in vayne, in the performance of yo^r pleasures, wth speciall directions to the Captaine to take notice of all that pass by him, and to informe himselfe what he can of any course held by the enemy, and thereof to giue advertisement as cause shall require, eyther to yo^r lo^{ps}, my selfe, or any the deputy lyveteynants upon the coast next adjoyning to the place where he shall be, that thereby his Ma^{ys} forces may haue the more tyme to be in a readines to wthstand any attempt that shalbe offered upon the suddē, althoughe I assure my selfe that yo^r lo^{ps} hath already giuen geñall directions in that case, yet fearing he might faile of the receipt thereof, I haue presumed under yo^r lo^{ps} fauor^{rs} to supplye any such accident, by this present oportunitie, being the speediest meaines I could lay hold of. Even soe humbly Comytting yo^r lo^{ps} to Gods holy protection I rest.

Yo^r lo^{ps} in all duetyfull service / FERD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH, y^e last of October 1625.

As I past thorough the Countrey I was carefull to informe my selfe what stoores of powder and match there was in store upon any occasion, and I find (to my hearts greife) that there is litle or none, neyther doe they knowe where to gett yt, for money; May yt therefore please yo^r lo^{ps} to be

a meaines eyther that the lyveteynaunts, may provide yt as they can for the present supply, or to caufe some good quantytye to be fent downe out of his Ma^{ts} ftoores, and the countrey fhall returne present money for yt.

End: To the right ho^{ble} the lords of his Ma^{ts} moft ho^{ble} privy Councell, a Court / theife / Octob^r the laft. A lre from S^r Ferd: Gorge touching his Shipp and the want of powder.

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

SIR: I haue fent my Cofen Cole on purpofe to follicite the reparation of the decayes of this place and to followe fuch other bufines as concerne his Ma^{ts} feruice as well as my owne p̃ticuler, wherein I doe efpecially prefume vpon your hono^{rs} favour who hath bin an eye witnes in what fhamefull ftate wee ftand in, and in whome there is wifdome and Judgment to fecond the reformaçon of foe behavefull a bufines, and I haue efpecially required him to addrefse himfelfe to your honor on all occafions as to a perfon I moft rely vpon.

As yet I haue heard nothinge from our fleet but I doubt not (by gods favor) of their well doinge, for that euill neuer would haue flowed by the way, that good feldome comes.

For my owne part I dare not ftirre farr from my charge vntill I heare what is become of the Dunkerks, or howe the forces at Lifborne are difpofed of. As for the bufines of my Shipp as heretofore I haue faid, foe I muft fay ftill, I leaue to
your

your honnor to doe for mee as for your felfe, affuringe my felfe you will take to yo^r Confideraçon howe manie other ym-
ploym^{ts} there are to be hadd for the present of extraordinary
proffitt for a Shipp of her force.

As for the busines of ffraunce I thinke it will proue in the
conclusion as heretofore I alwaies conceaued it would, but I
durft not be ouer bould to censure things of that nature,
especially obseruinge the waies that were taken by w^{ch} they
brought their busines to pass, but at the first their open
pretences were against Monsieur Soubiza and his brother:
Nowe they are willinge to make peace wth all, saue those of
Rochell: when indeed their principall ayme was for manie
yeares before to cut of the root of the religion by defetinge
them of that hould, w^{ch} they would accomplish (at howe deare
a rate soeuer they bought it) and it is noe evill way in my
opinion to Judge of the first intent of things by the continuall
profecuçon of them, but (Sir) you are both of wisdome and
place fitt to take knowledge of matters of this nature and I
am the boulder wth you for that I haue had soe good prooffe
of your vertue and worthie care of anie thinge that soe
highly concerne the estate of our owne happines to whome
I leaue the farder confideration hereof, and soe will rest in all
seruice:

Your honno^{rs} humbly to bee Commanded /

FARD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH the: 26. of November 1625.

Add: To the right hono^{ble} Sir John Cooke knight, principall Secretary to the
Kings most excellent Ma:^{tie} at Court these. End: 1625 Novēb 1626 S^r Ferdi:
Gorges from Plimouth.

(Coke

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

NOBLE SIR I perceave by yours of the 13th of this instant, that you haue receaued information, that some of the Capitaines of Mounfeir De Soubiza, haue a resolution to attempt the fetching away of the S^t John by force out of falmemouth, the trueth whereof I haue examined wth some strictnes, & find as there was noe reason wherefore they should offer anie such thinge, foe there was nothinge lesse intended by them, onely it is true that doubtinge what Mounfeir De Martey, the French kings Viceadmirall might attempt vpon for they come to mee & desired that I would doe them that favor, to write to Captaine Bonithon,⁶⁴¹ that hee would be a meanes that they might bringe her peaceably from thence, to whome for their satisfaction, I was bould to wishe him to obserue them in their desires as far forth as hee could, if hee had not anie order to the contrarie. alledginge wthall that I conceaued it could not be anie waies disagreeable to the integrity of his Ma^{ty} iust care of all due respects to be had, that p^{so}ns of foraigne States in league wth his Ma^{ty} should receaue equall p^{te}ction wthin his portes, foe it was thought fit, that where suspition was had of evill intents that they might be foe drawn vnder Comands where the ministers of Justice might haue power to order them foe, as was fittinge the honor of the State, Herevpon they questioned mee, that in case sh^ee were permitted to come away, & that

Mounfeir

⁶⁴¹ This is without doubt Captain the founders of Saco, and who is con- Richard Bonython, afterwards one of spicuous in the early history of Maine.

Mounfeir De Mantey did notwithstandinge persue her, whether it might not be allowed too them to meet them at Sea, wth . 4 . or . 5 . Shipps to assure free passage, To w^h I replyed I knew not but that it was agreeable to the lawes of nature, and Nations, for eurye Creature to defend himselfe, & to protect his life & goods, by his best meanes, yet wished them to vnderstand more from mee before they proceeded farther in that busines, Conceauinge that vpon the dep̃rture of the Hollanders out of the ffrenche seruice, (from whence they were called by the Prince of Orange, & the States of the vnited provinces on payne of deathe, & to make their Randeuouz before Dunkerke) That Mounfeir De Mantey would also leaue that place, & then they might bringe her about wthout more adoe, & this I conceaue was the grownd of the advertisement your honor receaued, but vpon anie such occasion hereafter, I humbly beseech your honor to rest assured that I will not soe much suffer my asser-tion to blind my Judgment, as that I will knowingly permitt the Kings Honno^r to suffer in the least condiçon that maie be, yet I humbly thanke your Honor for yo^r noble care, and will not faile henceforth not onely to indeavo^r to preuent anie such thinge, But to impeach what I maie, euen the Cause of suspition, and I shalbe wonderfull glad if here be anie thinge in my power that might be seruiceable to his Ma^{tie}, or yeeld exceptation to their Lo^{ps} But I am sorey that things haue soe sorted in this last ymployment, that I haue no Joye to be more large in the relation of their succeffe, my trust is, the next wilbe better, and if my seruice may be exceptable I presume I shalbe able to shoue the waie of layinge a faire foundation for the erectinge of a glorious buildinge
nether

nether doe I Court anie such thinge for glories sake, or other respect then the desire I haue of my Countries happines, and the honor of my Kinge, and nation, even foe restinge:

Yo^r. Honno^{rs} humbly to serue you / FERD : GORGES.

ffrom his ma^{ties} ffort by PLYMOUTH this 22th of December 1625.

Add : for his Ma^{ties} Speciall Seruice To the right Hono^{ble} S^r John Cooke knight principall Secretary to his most excellent Ma^{tie} at the Court these haft haft post haft End : by Sir J. Coke. 1625 Deceb 22 S^r Ferd Gorges frō Plimouth.

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

SR: I vnderstand that the late m^r of my Shipp Andrew Batton whom for his mutiny and dishonesty to mee when I was aboard myselfe I put out of her, hath abused yo^r. hono^r and the rest of the Comission^{rs}, and contrary to my order entermeddled wth the pay of the Marrino^{rs} and the officers to the wronginge both of them and mee, and therefore I shall desire you to take notice of it, and to be pleased vppon informaçon of the pticulers thereof to pceed therein, as in Justice you shall thinke it fitt, I haue appointed the Captaine to repayre vnto your honno^r about it, as alsoe my Cofen Cole and I knowe not how m^r Burlemack hath pceeded wth mee in that busines for that I heare my Purser is dead, and there is none of his accounts come to my handes, but in ffraunce I did acknowledge to haue receaued all that was due vnto mee for . 6 . monethes entertaynment,
for

for shipp victualls & my mens wages, & gaue my discharge to Burlemack for receipt thereof, and I hope hee hath accordingly pformed it, if not hee hath deceaued my expectation, beyond my oppinion of his worth. But if hee hath made his word good there resteth somethinge towards the refurnishinge of her, for the better inableinge of her for his maties seruice againe. Yet of these pticulers I forbear to trouble your honno^r; as knowinge the multitude of businesse that you are troubled wth at this p^rsent. The state of all things here you will vnderstand by our Generalls letters, as for those things that concerne mee not, I knowe you heare from others, but I feare you will find maney errors hath bin Comitted, that will need of beinge prevented hereafter, And it becomes not mee to accuse or excuse I will indeauo^r to doe my dutie where I haue to doe, and If I may be heard I will not doubt but that many of these may be avoyded hereafter, and your honno^r must knowe this muche, for that it is fitt you should seeke how to helpe it, that there is a generall discomfort conceaued vpon the euill Carrage of this ymployment; but where the fault is you best knowe, and I hope it wilbe a warninge to vs hereafter, and teach vs to rest assured that wthout fit instruments it is a hard matter to pforme anie excellent worke. I will trouble you noe farther, but that I will euer rest:

Yo^r Honno^{rs} humbly to serue you / FERD: GORGES.

ffrom his mat^s ffort by PLYMOUTH this 27 of December 1625.

Add: To the Right Hono^{ble} Sr John Cooke knight principall secretary to his most excellent Matie at Court: these End: by Sir J. Coke. 1625 Dec^r 24
Sr Ferdinand Gorges from Plimouth.

(State

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. XX. No. 31.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY CONWAY.

RIGHT HO^{BLE} Here is lately arrived a hollander that came out of the East indias, I remember some yeeres since before the death of our late Ma^{tie}, there was order for the staying of any of them that should come out of those parts. Now for that I know not how things haue bin since accorded betweene our merchants of the east Indies & theirs, And for that I perceiue there hath bin many treaties & mutyall respects betweene his Ma^{tie} & the States of those parts, I should be louth to doe any thing that I might giue occasion of distast or exceptions, and therefore haue forborne for the present to execute the tend^r of the former warrant, untill I might receyue farther dyrections in that behalfe: Humbly praying yo^r lo^{ps} that you will be pleased I may understand at full his Ma^{tie} or my lo: Admyralls farther pleasure therein that foe my accons and the publike service may mutyally agree in on, I haue herewth written to the Gouverno^r of the east indian company to the same effect, & doe intend to forbear to exp^{re}s any thing to the Co^mmanders of the Shipp, untill I heare that they are upon point of de^pt^ure, foe that I desyre they should not knowe of any ympedym^{en}t intended them, but upon necessity; foe referring to your wifdome the farther Considera^{co}n hereof I humbly rest

Yo^r l^{ps} fervaunt to be Co^mmanded / FERD : GORGES.

PLYMOUTH the 5th of Feb: 1625.

To the right ho^{ble} my very good lord, the lo: Conway, principall secretary to his Most excellent Ma^{tie} at Court these. 5. Febr. 1625. S^r Ferdinando Gorges
to

to the lo: Conway. That a hollander, come from the East indies, w^{ch} he hath staied there, according to the warr^t he had in K. James his tyme to that purpose, & desireth to know his Ma^{tie} & my Lo: Admiralls pleasure what he shall doe.

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONNO^R It is certaine, I vnderstand that the Hollanders haue quite the busines of Portrego, having onely sacked & demolished the Towne but could not take the Castle, for that being themselues weake and in want of all necessaries they were forced to leave it to their possessions againe, and I pceaue it to be (as you say) the tymes are possessed w^h other Ingagments, but if I durst speake what I knowe, I would say wee are possessed w^h a desire to doe well by other wayes, but you will finde that to haue bin the best way, were it followed in tyme, and what you that are at the helme will doe, wee that are foremast men know not, yet sure wee are, our feare is you steare not the right course of harbouring the Shipp in safety, for wee obserue enemies round about vs, ffraunce & Spayne vpon the poynt of confederating how to bring their ends to passe vpon vs, howsoever you there may be otherwaies pswaded of the impossibility thereof, how the Archduches armes, & prepares, you cannot but haue heard at large, to preuent all w^h would require a Councell of the greatest Statesmen & the greatest Captaines of the Nation. And when I come to speake of the Captaines I sorrowe to thinke howe poorely the Kinge is furnished at this p^rsent, the rather for that I find hee p^rsumes onely on those bred in the dull warrs of the Low-

Countries, where their actions are slowe, as is their Courfes in all their pceedings. Their Armies furnished w^h all things that can possibly be thought on, fit for their manno^r of ymploym^t, w^h differs asmuch from the warrs to be made to the Southwards, as is possible, & in w^h the Captaines wilbe as farr to seeke as those that neuer sawe the warr. Besides what Captaine is there of our Nation at this p^rsent euer gaue his minde to vnderstand what belongs to the affaires of the Seas, and if any man vndertake that busines, and not beaten in Knowledge of it, hee shalbe assured to loose his owne Honno^r, & to bring to distruction the publique affaires, vpon this ground I partly founded my opinion of the succeffe of our late & miserable attempt, before they went from hence, and therefore did my best to haue prevented the worst, if my councell could haue bin harkened vnto, but I see that what God will haue, man cannot w^h-stand; but to satisfie your honor in a word, of the true causes of our late scorne (for what I can heare) it was, first, the many wants of necessaries fit for such attempts as they vndertooke.

Secondly the want of knowledge & vnderstanding that ought to be in Cheefes fit for such designes; Thirdly the frownes of Spiritts w^h occasioned the p^rtraction of tyme, that a dilligent and nimble Capt euer assures him selfe of before hand, as the weapon of the greatest aduantage & fittest to incounter an Enemy w^h; As for yo^r pceedings in pliam^t I beseech God for to vnite the harts of the Kinge, and his people, as that they may both see & knowe — the many & many occasions they haue to indeauo^r to prevent the storme in tyme that is falling vpon vs, but mee thinks

I behould wth feare a certaine Confusion in all our courfes, as if our minds were diftracted. And from thence a wonderfull erefolution, & vncertainty what to doe firft, wth is thought to pceed from no other thing, then want of experience, how to difpofe of matters in tyme of troubles. And in trueth (Sir) to be playne wth you, this is the obfervation that is made by thofe of any vnderftanding, and this is that, that difcurrageth the Low-Country Captaines, as well as others of Judgment, and makes proud & insolent our Enemies abroad, together wth the late experience they haue had of our ignorant and Cowardly attempt, as they terme it.

Now, (Sir) for the ffrench that are here, they are ready to doe any thing that is fezable for their poore meanes to doe, but I thinke not yet refolued what to attempt, As for the newes of peace in ffraunce foe commonly bruted with vs for my owne part I beleeeue it not, the rather for that I am foe well acquainted wth thofe kind of rumors, as alfoe for that I haue lately heard that the Kinge hath fent out of S^t. Mallowes to ioyne wth his ffleet at Rochell, fixteen fayle of great Shipps besides fix fayle of ould Shipps to fincke in the mouth of the Channell, and diuers others out of other parts of his Dominions, for to make good the Seas againft Mounfeieur De Soubiza, whome they heare is to come from hence, wth a very great ffleet. And (Sir) what foeuer you expecte to heare from ffraunce affure yo^rfelfe, it fhall onely fort to the advanceing of their owne ends, as hath euer bin their practices, neyther are they otherwaies to be dealt wth all than by the fword, if the tyme be fit for it; and yet too farr flowe. This instant is moft dangerous too, as for our Shipps that are here it wilbe yet . 5 . or . 6 . fix weeks, before
they

they Can be fitted to fet sayle although I find Captaine Pen-
 ington to ymploy a great deale of induftry in bofing what
 is poffible, but it is one thing to thinke and another thing to
 doe; Laftly, I hould my felfe infinitely beholding vnto you,
 for your Care and refpect had of me about my fhipp, but I
 muft earneftly defire your Honno^r to be pleaſed to fauo^r mee
 foe much as to be a meanes that I be not cofened by the
 difhoneſty of the late maſter, that for his wicked mutiny;
 and Conſpiracy to runne away w^h my Shipp, had I not bin
 aboard my felfe, I was forced to turne away, whom I heare
 hath by his flye & lewde pra^ctice in my abſence gott my
 mony into his hands, and takes vpon him to diſpoſe thereof
 at his pleaſure, the pticulars whereof I haue Comanded my
 Cofen Cole to attend yo^r honno^r w^h, that I may receyue that
 Juſtice that you ſhall thinke fitt for him that cannot flirr
 anie waies from his Ma^{ties} ſeruice, How much foeuer vnto
 his owne preiudice. Euen foe craving yo^r pardon for my
 plaine and free dealing, To whome I will euer reſt.

Yo^r Honno^r Seruant to be Comanded / FERD: GORGES.

PLIMOUTH this 15th of february 1625.

Add: To the right Hono^rble S^r John Coke Knight, principall Secretary to his
 moſt Excellent Ma^{tie} at Court theſe. End: by Sir J. Coke. 1625 Feb 15.
 S^r Ferdinand Gorges frō Plimouth.

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONNOR This incloſed Coming to
 our hands, wee thought fit to recomend it to your further
 Confidera^çon, that Conferring it with the reſt of your intelli-
 gence

gence you may doe therein as shall best fort wth the occasion. There is nothing else in these parts that wee have to say worthie your Knowledge, seeing that wee find the most part of the Shipps that are here vnder the Command of Captaine Penington, to be in a manne^r ready to take in their victualls, but of that wee can say nothinge onely we conceaue that the officers assigned for that seruice doe not omitt to certify the perticulars of their proceedings therein. Soe resting from beinge farther troublesome, wee dutifully rest

Yo^r Honnors humble Seruants/ FERD: GORGES.

JOHN GROBBELL.

JOHN FOWELL.

PLIMOUTH this 25th of ffebruary 1625.

Add: To the right Hon^{ble} S^r John Cooke knight, principall Secretary to his
most excellent Mat^{ie} at Court these. End: by Sir J. Coke. 1625 Feb. 25
S^r Ferdin. Gorges frō Plimouth.

[The inclosure is a printed titlepage, thus:]

Meditationes | ac | foliloquia | in Septem Petitiones Ora-
tio|nis Dominicæ. | Authore | R. P. F. Elifæa à S. Michaelē |
Carmelita Discalceato. | Sic ergo vos orabitis: Pater Nof-
ter | qui es in cælis. Matth. 6. | Antverpiæ | Apud Petrum
& Ioannē Belleros. | 1635. 16c. xxxv. |

SIR. F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONNOR I lately advertised my Lord Conway, of an East Indian man that arrived here, and of an order that I had from my Lord Admirall before his late Ma^{ties} discease, for the stay of any of them that should happen to arrive here, wth a desire to his Lo^{pp} that I might vnderstand

vnderstand his Mat^{ties} pleasure, or my Lord Admiralls, what Courfe I should hould in the execution thereof, for respect of the manie treatise that I vnderstand hath passed betweene State and State since that tyme, since the writting whereof there is another arrived, wth both w^{ch} I haue dealt in the fairest Termes I could, so attend the pleasure of the State before their deptime againe, who seeme willing therevnto, both in obedience vnto the Command, aswell as the supply of their owne necessities, but it seemes my Lord Conway his occasions are so manie that this busines hath slipt his memory, for that I heare nothing from his Lo^p in answere of myne. And therefore I humbly beseech yo^r honno^r to hasten a resolution hereof wth what hast shall seeme fit vnto yo^r wisdome. To whome I rest

Yo^r Honno^{rs} humble Seruant / FERD: GORGES.

from his Mat^{ties} ffort by PLIMOUTH the of ffebruary 1625.

[No address, nor any endorsement. Perhaps sent inclosed in the letter of 15th February, 1625, in which it now remains.]⁶⁴²

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONNOR: By your Honno^{rs} of the seventh of this instant, itt appeares how carefull you have ben to give accompt to their Lo^{ps} of what hath past from my selfe, and the rest of the Comissioners to your hands of our proceedings here w^{ch} fauour as it was agreeable to our expecta^{ti}ons

⁶⁴² A copy of Sir John Coke's reply it are obliterated by age. It shows, to this and the foregoing letter is at however, that Sir John Coke held Gorges Melbourne House, but many portions of in great esteem.

pectacons, foe is your Noble diligence in anfwereing the fame. As for the late Alarum given to mee and the reſt of the Comiſſioners, it was noe ſooner conceaued then the meanes was found to prevent itt: Allthough to make the buſines the more ſure, as in matters of that kinde you knowe (Sir) there is noe delay to be vſed. The Comiſſion^{rs} were aſſembled and ſome of them being Deputy Leuitenants wth my ſelfe there was preſent order given for ſome extraordinary Guards to be ſettled in ſuch places as was found moſt fitt to entercept any ſuch aſſemblies or movings as might fort with the intelligence given, and beſides that, vpon the day appointed by the contrivers as the intelligence went. I held it my duty to be my ſelfe on horſeback & to aſſigne certaine of the Comiſſioners wth others of the Leuitenants to meet mee, where wee might bee ready to give order both to the Captaines & Cheife officers of the Army, as alſoe to the trayned bands to doe what elſe had bin fitt to haue bin done in that behalfe, foe as wee find that the buſines was taken before itt was ripe, & foe quenched with little or noe brute or rumour of any ſuch thinge. How ſoeuer itt hath wrought an opinion in the moſt preſumptious that it is their beſt way to attend with more patience for ſuch things, as they are made to knowe is prepared to ſupply their preſent neceſſities w^{thall}, w^{ch} in a word (Sir) is extreame great and in truth ſufficient to diſcontent and afflict excellent mindes. As for Captaine Penington hee hath vſed a great deale of diſcretion, and with much care to keepe in order the Marrino^{rs} although with much difficulty too, as I preſume hee hath from tyme to tyme aduertified when it beſt became him.

As

As concerning the ffrench Shipps the most of them went from hence some thirteene daies since, forced therevnto for want of all things necessary to hould life and Soule together, a number of them being sicke and weake, & the most part wthout clothes or ought else to helpe them, soe as the peace being made the cheifest of them came vnto mee their Eyes full of teares, & their hearts full of sorrowe, bewailling the miserable condiçon of their ffortune that had lost their patrimonies, and themselues stood as persons proscribed; and for ought they could learne not in the compas of the accord. Howsoever they were to retyre home to their wiues & children, or to perrish here without meanes of releife, but with this protestaçon vnto mee that had vsed my best meanes to detayne them here as longe as possibelely I could, that if occasion presented, or his Ma^{tie} should require it, they would be ready with their bodies, goods, & freinds, to attend either his Ma^{ties} comandes or Mounseieur de Soubiza vpon the first summons, soe as now here remaines onely that Shipp that was Mounseieur de Soubiza his owne called the little S^t John, and one other small Barque likewise his Lo^{ps}, and one other small Barque or two that attend the next faire winde, the two belonging to Mounseieur de Soubiza. I haue caused the Captaine & Master to hale ashore wthin the Quaie, for that I feare that some of them in this disaister might carry them away, as they did one other of his Lo^{ps} contrary to the comand they had receiued both from his L^{op} and my selfe att his Lo^{ps} request.

As for the letter it pleased you to write for, I haue none that came to my hand about the same tyme, that purports any matter of consequence. It is true I receiued a letter
about

about the same time by one of East Lowe from a certaine french man, dated about the same tyme you write of, but it came not to my hands vntill the peace was concluded, and contayninge nothing of certaine that I could pceauie the knowledge thereof might any waies advantage his Ma^{ties} seruice, I doe much neglected itt as I can by no meanes knowe what became of itt, howsoever the same partie that wrote it is better able by this tyme to cleere what soever was contayned therein, not easily to be vnderstood if hee be sent vnto to the same purpose, but I heare so much from tyme to tyme as hath made mee bould heretofore to write my opinion of the resolucon of that State to be nothing les than it appeares his Ma^{tie} is pswaded by them itt is, and if my iudgement and intelligence both doe not faile mee, you will find that this peace doe concluded of late (howe disadvantageous) soever to the poore Rochellers is of noe farther or longer countenance than vntill they haue disposed the Troops that attended Mounfeieur de Soubiza his fortunes in all these extremities, & wth more ease to aduance their other designes, the better to psecute their enterprises on that place, thereby to accomplish the extirpacion of the Religion out of those parts. And farther itt is to be feared by the Manno^r of their proceedings aswell as by what is bruted vnto mee from all sides, that the combination is certainly concluded, howsoever other waies colloured betweene Spaine and ffraunce for the better accomplishing of the same. as alsoe to curbb his Ma^{ties} resolucon of vphoulding the state of Religion, either there or else where, w^{ch} they are assured hee principally aymes att, what other cause of quarrell wth Spaine soever is pretended, but your obseruacions of the Councells of ffraunce

and the speciall instruments ymployed in the managing of those affaires will best declare this, for if you find them either Jesuitts or persons Jesuiticall, then you knowe they are wholly Spanish or maliciously inclyned to the State of Religion, and such as will hould eũy Art that may advance the rewin thereof merittorious, but if in this I haue waded farther than becomes mee, I beseech you to pardon mee, & howsoeuer their is noe hurt in doubting the worst & preventing it.

As for the newes of Spaine, it is comon, the great preparation they make out of all his dominions for a Navill expediçõn, allthough I cannott beleieve hee can be readie soe soone as is pretended he wilbe, allthough his Ministers vse their best industry to furnish him wth provisions of all sorts, fitt for his occasions by Sea & land, both out of ffrance, and out of the Hance Townes aswell as in fflaunders and other his owne dominions. But as I receaue any thing of certaine from any ports, I will not faile to trouble your honno^r wth itt allthough I am hart sicke to see o^r selues cast soe farr behind hand in point of honno^r at home and abroad. As alsoe to haue lost soe much tyme and Treasure to soe little purpose, when as had it pleased God wee had begone att the first, at the right end much might haue bin done, and little said, but itt is too late to call backe what is past and it yet is more then tyme to resolue what is nowe to be done, for if this yeare be lost, things will be done the next wth more difficulty, & soe yeare after yeare, it wilbe harder & harder, as for my propositions I either feare my owne reputation is too weake to win creditt in these times or my countries misfortunes too aparant not to followe what is grounded
vpon

vpon knowledge to be most fitt, Howsoever my prayers & industry shall not be wanting. And if the Kinge shalbe pleased to give me leave, & a compitent meanes hee shall see that either I will wipe away a great part of our late scornes, or leave my selfe in the attempt, and if I doe not as much as his Ma^{tie} can expect from a Captaine seconded wth noe greater meanes, lett mee receiue noe favour att my retorne. But (Noble Sir) I see I am wading farther in this than I conceaue is yet fitt for the present tyme but when you shall please to call mee to a farther accompt, I wilbe ready to attend you wth my best Seruice Vntill when I beseech you to take vnto your farther Considera^{con} these ppisitions for the better aduancm^t of his Ma^{ties} seruice.

ffirst howe convenient or inconvenient it may bee for his Ma^{tie} to vse the seruice of Mounseieur de Soubiza as his Generall for his warrs towards the Indies, considering hee is a Prince of his owne blood, a Captaine of reputation abroad, aswell as wth vs, of power to drawe vnto him maney noble Spirritts of his owne followers, and Maney braue Marrino^{rs} to helpe man his ffleett.

Secondly whether that hee being soe put a foot it may not occasion a change of resolu^{con} in the state of ffraunce, to proceed in their attempts against Rochell, knowing him of power to comand the passages for supplies when need shall require.

Lastly how much such an ymployment of him might honno^r the cause and incurage the part of Religion w^{ch} I conceave may be done, w^{thout} preiudice of the Honno^r of any other interested in the great ymployments for that it is a perticular ymployment onely to the Indies that hee is to
be

be ymployed in, as Mansfield is in other parts. Even foe comitting you to Gods holy proteccon, I will neuer faile to rest :

Yo^r. Honno^rs Seruant to be Comanded / FERD: GORGES.

from his Ma^{ties} ffort by PLYMOUTH this 12th of Aprill : 1626 :

Add : To the Honorable and my much honored, S^r John Coke knight principall Secretary to his most Excellent Ma^{tie} at Court theife. End : by Sir J. Coke.
1626 April 12. Sir Ferdin : Gorges frō Plimouth.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. XXVI. No. 85.)

SIR F. GORGES TO NICHOLAS.

S^r. I am bould to send you these inclosed⁶⁴³ to be deliued according to the direccons, they Concearne the busines of Captaine Heigham whose wants will nott permitt him meanes to followe itt himfelse, and his case is much to be pittied being an ould Captaine and of extraordinary meritt, like to be suplanted by an vnworthie fellowe that was his Leiuetenant, although one that was neuer a foldier, and in whome there is noe trueth vallo^r, or anie kind of worth, a Carpenter by trade bred to the pra^ctice of Armes in the Artillery yard, the Comissioners haue written to my Lord Duke howe they haue found the merritts of both sides upon due Examinacon, although wth respect of modesty, his Grace wilbe honored in his aduancing the worthie, and omitting the vnworthie, I shall need to say noe more to you faue onely that you wilbe a menes to hasten his Graces pleasure herein,

⁶⁴³ This enclosure, bearing the signature of Gorges, is numbered 85, I., and follows this letter, but is not of sufficient interest to be included with his correspondence.

herein, that the kings seruice do not suffer anie longer through this Contention. And I wilbe readie to acknowledge yo^r care therein, and so to rest.

Yo^r assured freind to be Comanded /

FERD: GORGES.

From his Ma^{ties} For^{ce} by Plymouth this 12th of Maie : 1626.

End : To my worthey and loving freind M^r Nickolas, secretary to the Duke of Buckingham : theife : R 15^o Maij 1626. S^t Ferd: Gorges to me con^ding y^e unworthines of M^r Matthewes to be Captaine.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. XXVII. No. 8.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY CONWAY.

MAY ITT PLEASE YO^R LORP. I haue herewth thought itt fitt to send yo^r Lorp. a copie of whatt I haue rec of the western ports, and conceiued itt not vn^safe thereupon to give order unto the Troops neere the Sea coast wthin this County, as well the trayned bands as those of his Ma^{ties} Army to be ready upon the first found of drume to obserue such further direccōs as they shall receiue vpon other in alegence and what resteth more to be done I humbly referr to yo more graue confidera^{ti}on, I haue farther presumed to give the like direccōs unto his Ma^{ties} Fleett wthin this harbour that they hould themfelues vpon their guards, and if Conueniently they may that they send out some five or Six faile to beat of into the Sea, and Sone to ly out in the Sound, till
other

other direcc̃on may come, whereof I thought itt my duty to
aduertice yo^r Lorp To whome I euer rest

Yo^r Lorp^s humble seruant/ FERD: GORGES.

From his Ma^{ties} Fortt by Plymouth this 16th of May, 1626.

[Enclosure.]

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. XXVII. No. 8. I.)

JOHN OSGOOD, MAYOR, & H. MONDY TO THE CONSTABLES
OF S^t AUSTELL.

MAY the XVth 1626.

WHEREAS wee haue receyued a letter from the Mayor of
Trurow, & he from the Mayor of Perin, advertifing vs that
there are 80: great shippes betwene the lezard & loe, verily
thought to be Spanards, wee haue thought yt fytt in like
manner to giue yo^u notice thereof & wee rest

Yo^r loving frinds/

Jo: OSGOOD, *Mayor.*

HUGH MONDY.

Yo^u may doe well to giue notice of this to Plymouth.

Add : To the Conftables of S^t Austle, & from thens to the Conftables of Foye, haft
haft post, for his Ma^e service. Treque by 9 in the morning May 15. Att Foye
this present Tuesday 5 of the Clock. haft for life. vera Copia ex. p cur.
Ferd: Gorges. End : for his Ma^{ties} especiall seruice : To the right hono^r^{ble} my
very good Lord the Lord Conway principall secretary to the Kings most ex-
cellent Ma^{ty} att Courtt theise : haft haft haft haft haft haft post haft. Ferd :
Gorges. frō his Ma^{ties} Fortt by Plymouth 16th of May 1626. 12 att night : R_p att
plimouth the 17th att to in morning. R_p at Aishberton at eight in the morning
the 17th of May 1626. Sherborne at 9 in the morninge the 18th of May 1626.
At Shafbre the xvijth of May at j at none . . . Staynes at past one a clok
afornone. Rec att Charing Croffe london the 20th att 8. in the morning.
May 20th S^t Ferdinando Gorges Advertifment of Spanifh shippes discovered
upon the Coaft/ Orders given thereupon. (State

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. XXVII. No. 55.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY COKE.⁶⁴⁴

HONORABLE SIR. The Captaines that are affigned to keepe the coast after the departure of the Fleet, haue made their complaint unto mee of their great want of men for the better defence of their shippes upon any occasion, for whose supplies (seeing all our sea faring men are exasted, and the Country glened so neere as they are) I haue thought it most agreeable to his Ma^{ties} seruice to furnishe them wth 70. or 80. Musquetters out of those companies next adjoyn- ing to this place as well for that itt will saue to his Ma^{tie} so much pay as so maney saylo^{rs} would haue had, as allso for that itt wilbe a good meanes to keepe them from Idlenes, and inable them so much the better for future seruice, but be- cause I haue noe expresse order for my doing in this case, I haue bin bould to adūtice their Lor^{ppes} of itt, and wth all humbly to desire their fauourable interpretaçons of my hon- est intent, and honorable allowance for my doing therein att the least so far forth as they shall approue thereof, whose answeres thereunto I beseech yo^r honnor to afford mee, wth as much convenienfy as is possible; that thereby I may bee assured my zeale to his Ma^{ties} seruice may noe way bee preju- diciall to my selfe.

The

⁶⁴⁴ Sir John Coke was the second son of Sir Richard Coke, of Trusley, Derbyshire, and was a man noted for probity and ability. He was first Secretary of the Navy, and later Master of Requests, from which latter office he was promoted, shortly after the accession of Charles I., to be one of the Secretaries of

State, which office he held for a period of fourteen years, when, being of advanced age, he retired to Melbourne House, where he died in September, 1644.

The letters in this volume entitled "Coke MSS." are still to be seen at Melbourne House, where they have remained since the time of Sir John.

The mutinous clamor^{rs} of the Soldiers and murmuring of the Country people are soe largely sett forth by the Commission^{rs} letters to their Lor^{ps} as I shall not need to make repetition thereof to your honno^r at this present, onely I will say this much that I haue varied my selfe wth care and trauell and knowe not more what to doe having patched out tyme as long as it is possible, and if helpe come not the sooner all will breake out into extremities wherein their cases will require rather pittie then punnishment. I assure my selfe of yo^r fauour and am out of doubt of your care howe to helpe all therefore I will euer rest

Yo^r humble seruant to bee Comanded / FERD: GORGES.

from his Ma^{ties} Fortt by PLYMOUTH this 24th of May: 1626.

End: To the right honorable S^r John Coke knight principall secretary to his most excellent Ma^{ties} att Courtt: theise: May 24. 1626. S^r Ferdinando Gorges to M^r Secr: Cooke.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. LXX. No. 34.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY COKE.

S^r Havinge given yo^r honno^r to understand the geⁿall defects of this place, I haue Considered howe something might be supplied without his Ma^{ties} charge w^{ch} I thought fitt to tender unto yo^r honno^{rs} further Considera^çon.

First for the strengthening of the guards finding howe much the Countrie is defectiue of Sarjeants Corporalls, Lans-prefadoes⁶⁴⁵ and some principall leaders of files as well

as

⁶⁴⁵ Equivalent to "lance-corporals."

as of Captaines Liuetenants, and Ensignes, that ought not to be ignorant of their duties when necessity shall require their present employment.

Itt may please his Ma^{tie} and their Lo^{ps} to giue order unto the Lord Liuetenant that there be choise made of three principall souldiers young and of quicke spirritts out of euery hundred of the trayned bandes to be sent unto mee unto Plymouth to be disposed of as I shall thinke fitt for their exercises and instructiōs in th execuōn of their seūall duties according to their seūall places to be assigned them in their bandes, together with six Captaines, six Liuetenants, and six Ensignes, out of the six regiments that is to say one Captaine out of eūye Regiment and one Liuetenant, and one Ensigne and two Sarjeants out of euery Regement the souldiers to remaine here three weekes the Captaines & others the Officers, as it shalbe thought fitt in discretion and soe to be dismissed and others to be sent to supplie their places untill the expiraōn of the tyme, and at th end of three weekes those souldiers to be dismiss, and other three out of eūie hundred to be sent to releiue them, and so eūie three weekes for three monethes together w^{ch} will Conclude the summer, and giue both good life and assurance to the place as well as Comfortt and hart to the Countrie specially if choise be made of such of the trayned bandes as are best able to beare their owne charge, whiles they are here.

For that I understand there remaines yet in this towne some small quantity of powder, match, and shott, as also some three or fowre Carrages for ordnance, there Lo^{ps} may be pleased to giue order it maie be deliued to mee or

my Officers to be ymployed for the p̃sent supplie of the place, some Wheeles I am forced to caufe to be made here for to mount some of the Ordnance that are unmounted, the rest that is to be done for reparaçon of the decaies should likewise bee done out of hand, if order were giuen for some monies or creditt wherewth to fatisfie the poore workemen, w^{ch} is soe necessarie to be speedily finished, as it principally Concernes both the safety of the place, and honno^r of his Ma^{tie}: Itt being a defence soe notable to all that passe the seas, and indeed a scorne not to be fitted as itt ought to be. This much I thought fitt to bee added to my Former tre, that yo^r honno^r might receaue informaçon of my Concept, and with all to assure you I will euer bee thankfull to you for your fauo^r done mee & allwaies rest

Yo^r honno^{rs} to doe you seruice /

FERD: GORGES.

From his Ma^{ties} Fortt by PLYMOUTH. this 5. of July. 1627.

End : To the right honorable S^r John Coke knight principall Secretary to his most Excellent Ma^{tie} at Courtt giue theise. 1627—July 5. S^r Ferd: Gorges frō Plimouth. Wthout his M^{ts} charge. To renforce the guard at the castle wth 1 cap. 1 lieu. 1 Ensign & 2 Serg: out of euerie of the 6 Regiments & 3 hable foldiers out of euerie companie of the trained bands. Their to stay at Plimouth 3 weeks: & to bee relieued wth like nūbers frō 3 weeks to 3 weeks for 3 moneths. Munition to bee supplied frō the town.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. LXX. No. 33.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY COKE.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONNOUR: Since my last Coming into theise ptes, I haue indeavoured by what meanes I might
best

best be able to settle the estate of this Countrey, to make head against anie suddaine incursion or invasion, that the enemies might make upon it. To which purpose, I haue past through it three tymes, once to giue order for erecting of the defences along the Sea-coast, and twice for the viewing of the Trayned Bandes of horse and Foote. And for the first (if things might be accomplished as it is ordered) I doubt not but his Ma^{tie} and their Lo^{ps} will find there hath bin noe defect in my indeavours. But I pceaue there is an expectation of the Countrey, that his Ma^{tie} wilbe pleased soe much to favour them, as to aide them with some twelue or Fourteene Peeces of Ordnance Demiculvering and Sacre, the rest of the charge either for guarding of them, or inclosing and erecting of the defences about the places where they are to be mounted. I hope they will be pswaded to doe what else is to be done, the rather through his Ma^{ties} and their Lo^{ps} orders, directed to the Lord Liuetenant to that purpose, and for the trayned bandes I wilbe bould to say, that I thinke for the infantry his Ma^{tie} hath not manie better for the number of them in his Dominions, the horse are not yet as I wishe they were, and some defects there are in the Armes of the Foote, but there is promise made of a speedie reparacon, and care shalbe taken it shall not be flowred,⁶⁴⁶ but I shall humblie desire yo^r honno^r (in their behalves) that you wilbe pleased to second their Petitions to his Ma^{tie} and their Lo^{ps}, For if they may be had I haue soe ordered it, as there shall neither Pirate, or other Enemy ride
neere

⁶⁴⁶ That is, delayed. The word was used frequently by the best writers of Sir Ferdinando's time.

neere the Coast, but they shalbe under Comand. And in my opinion it were not amisse they were encouraged by their Lo^{ps} letters to prosecute their good affectiōs. And I must be humbly bould to remember yo^r honno^r howe defectiue his Ma^{ties} Fortt and Iland are, that are under my charge, as well in respect of the decayes of the defences, as also the want of Ordnance, Muniçon, and other p^rvisions, fitt for a place of that consequence that it is of, and it is nowe more then fouer yeares, since the retourne of the Commissioners sent into theise ptes, who then gaue in a p^rticular in what case they found it, and what they conceaued would be the charge for reparation thereof, since which tyme nothing hath bin done, but all things haue bin the more subject to decaie and rewin, soe as there is neither Portt nor drawe bridge, but must bee newe made, as I doubt not but his Ma^{tie} yo^r selfe, and some of their Lo^{ps} may well remember the estate thereof since his Royall p^rsons being here, soe that if ought should happen through the defects thereof, I must humbly pray that the fault may lye where it is, and not on mee, that can but aduise and sue for what is fitt; And further I humbly beseech yo^r honno^r to thinke howe convenient itt were, course were taken for the strengthening of our ordinary Guardes, considering howe that wee must nowe expect that the French will ourly be practiceing howe they may be quittance with us for anie afront or damage wee shall offer them, and whome wee daiely see to make great p^rvisions to defend their owne Coast, as well as howe to inhabilitate themselues with shippes, and other vessells to p^rsecute their designs on us, which I doubt not but your honno^r hath daiely notice of, and therefore I will forbear to be further

ther troublesome in that kind. Onelie I humbly beseech yo^r honno^r to be a meanes to hasten the speedie determining to put in order theise things, as well for the satisfac^{ti}on of the expectac^{ti}on of the subjects, as the defence and honno^r of his Ma^{tie} and the publique go^ument. To which end I haue p^rsumed to comand my seruant to giue his daiely attendance on yo^r honno^r for yo^r direc^{ti}ons, allthough I humblie desire that Yo^r Honno^r wilbe pleased to be a meanes I may haue leaue to attend theire Lo^{ps} my selfe, the better to giue satisfac^{ti}on of all the pticulers, and to finishe such other busines as standes my poore estate upon, and withall to advance the designe of the West-Indies, which if I be not deceaued is more forwardes then itt seemes to bee, and I knowe it to be a matter under Corre^{cti}on soe necessarie for his Ma^{ties} seruice and for the estate of his affaires as if it be omitted, there can nothing to purpose be efected that shalbe of power to advance our decayde honno^r, or worke safety to his Ma^{tie}. Allthough I must acknowledge what hath bin done, to haue bin well intended and necessary to be put in a foote. All which I presume to speake out of a loyall hart, and a will to hazard my selfe, my Freinds, and Fortunes in itt; Ould allthough I am, and might better for my pticular seeke to settle my selfe to dye in a more peaceable course, yet to make itt appeare that if meanes may be had there is soe much industrie used, as when his Ma^{tie} shall call for itt; Itt is possible (under Gods favo^r) to turne the Currant of things another way, and in a good measure to giue newe luster to our Nation. But not to presume farther on yo^r honno^{rs} favour then in dutie itt becomes mee. I will humbly Craue pardon for my boldnes,

nes, and continewe to pray for yo^r increafe of honno^r and euer reft

Yo^r honno^{rs} moft humble fervant / FERD: GORGES.

from his Ma^{ties} Fortt by Plymouth this 5th of July. 1627.

End: To the Right honourable S^t John Coke knight principall Secretary to his moft Excellent Ma^{tie} at Courtt giue theife. 1627. July 5. S^t Ferdinand Gorges frō Plimouth. 12 or 14 peeces of Ordinance demanded by the Contrie. Supplies for the Caſtle & Iland. Increafe of guard. Leaue to cō up.

(State Papers, Domeſtic Correſpondence, Charles I., Vol. LXXI. No. 67.)

CONWAY TO SIR F. GORGES.

S^r In the prefence of the King I opened yo^r packet directed to me, wherein I found onely a cleane ſheet of pap, and there being come att that Infant a word or two from S^t Henry Meruin⁶⁴⁷ vice admirall of y^e narrow feas that certaine Hollanders had ſeene his Ma^{ts} fleet ſhoote all one day vpon the Iſle of S^t Martins⁶⁴⁸ his Ma^{ts} deſire was increaſed to heare farther of the fleet, and had much hope of the inſide of y^r letter, and finding onely a blanke was much confuſed, and ſuſpended betwene Choller and wonder. But then p^rſently receauing a letter from S^t James Bagg, In w^{ch} was incloſed in a ſheet of pap the examination of Cornelius Peterſon, I tooke

⁶⁴⁷ Sir Henry Mervin was an Admiral of the Fleet, and ſerved with ſufficient diſtinction to merit the honor of knight-hood, which was beſtowed upon him at Royſton, April 19th, 1619.

⁶⁴⁸ One of the Weſt India Iſlands, which on account of its commodious bays and roadſteads afforded a ſhelter to Spaniſh ſhipping.

tooke upon me to assure his Ma^{tie} that yo^u intended to haue put up the fame Relation, but yo^r secretery mistaking had put up a cleane pap in place of it, and his Ma^{tie} apprehending it foe, and hauing as much another way as yo^u meant him did passe by that accident. I doe assure yo^u his Ma^{ties} affe^ction and the cause he hathe and desire to heare of his fleet deserues to be satisfied, to addresse any thing to his Ma^{tie} I shall be glad for the Interest I haue in yo^u to haue opptunitie to excuse the former mistake and to improve y^r seruice to him in all I can and that in the Condition of y^r

[Copy incomplete and unsigned.]

AMPTHILL, 21 July, 1627.

End: July 29. 1627. To S^r Ferdinando Gorge.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. LXXIV. No. 70.)

SIR F. GORGES TO CONWAY.

MAY IT PLES YOUR LOR^{SP} her is arived a small man out of Gersey that reportes they understand the frenche kinge hath a flete of 20 sayell of shipes at humfleir⁶⁴⁹ in Normandey and ther is likwayes ten thousan men who as they faye ar bound for Gersey, this newes is foe confedently beleved by the Governor and the reste of the coumaunderes, that the inhabetenes ar allmoste every daye in armes, and seem to aprehend this alarrume wth a great dell of feare, ouer it This newes is in efecte but the sam I have latly refesed from other partes save that they speake of 20 sayell of shipes mor that ar to
coun

⁶⁴⁹ Honfleur, a seaport eight miles southeast of Havre.

coum from other portes and an expectacion the frenchemen have of foum shipes that is to coum out of Spayn for to goyn wth them, if it be foe, it maye as well be confesed that ther intent is not for aney small Ilandes, w^{ch} they know they cannot kepe longer then they ar M^r of the fees, therfore it maye beter be concluded (in my jugment) that ther purpose is rather far from parte of the Mayn, or to indevor to pute us from the atemptes we have in hande, how foum ever, (vnder corexion) my thinkes it weare not amyes, that present order weare geven for the strenghninge of our gardes, the repara^{ti}ones of o^r decayes and suplye of our stores, materes of that consequenes as your lo^{ps} knowes, as I cann but wonder it is yet to doinge consideringe the p^rsent state of the worlde how it standes, for my owne parte seinge how mouche I have bin neglected in my futes in this kind, I stand amased as on that knowes not what to do, but my truste is by that tim my nexte leteres coumes unto ther H^{ts} they will see good caues to make a spedey dispathe of besnes of this natuer, for I cann heyr of nothings but prepera^{ti}ones uppon prepera^{ti}ones, to strike a hom blowe on us, that ar strageled abroad, before we have armed our fellves for o^r owne defenses, my truste is your Lo^{ps} will parden my playn delinge and as beinge no straynger to the cores of my life, will ever hould me for

Your lo^{ps} faythfull servant /

FERD: GORGES.

From PLYMOUTH this 21. of August 1627.

End: To the right honorable my much honored Lord, the Lord Conway Principall Secretary to his most excellent Ma^{tie} att Court. theis. August 21. 1627. S^t Ferdinando Gorges. The p^rpara^{ti}on of Shipping, and Men in France. Ap^rphen^{si}on that the deffigne is against Jersie: Probabilities it may bee intended against some pte of the Mayne. Prepara^{ti}ons at home altogether neglected.

(State

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. LXXIV. No. 83.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

MAIE IT PLEASE YO^r: LOPS: Itt is nowe more then tyme, that I p̄sent my former sute unto yo^r: Lo^{ps}. for supplies both of men, & p̄visions, for the better defence of this place, seeing I heare from all ptes the great p̄paraçons that is in hand, both in France & Spaine, to Joyne together for the venting of their malice upon o^r: Nation, & howe suddainely they are to be expected, I leaue to yo^r: wisdomes to Judge, seeing at this instant there are upon o^r: coast fixe saile of great shippes of the French Kings, & two Biskmers, both of them lying as yet, of & on betweene Silley & the coast of France taking & sincking all of o^r: Nation that Comes athawrt them, & the Biskmers wthin this 12 daies ceazed on seven or eight of our Colliers, whereof they suncke some 4. or 5. and carried away the rest, as allso all the Pilats they can meet with that are good Coasters, and there is Fowrtie Frenchmen more as I understand of good burden making readie in se^ñall places, & of small Barques di^ñs to bee sett out by p̄ticuler persons, all which wilbe able so to invest the Coast, as if itt be not prevented in tyme, there wilbe noe trading as much as from portt to portt, much lesse into forraigne partes. Besides they will not omitt to attempt to land wherefoeuer they shall find they may doe most mischeif, as well to the distruc^ñcon, and spoile of the countrie. as to the dishonno^r, and danger of his Ma^{ty}s State and Go^ũment, being the things specially that the warr threatneth, and must of necessity bee looked for, and accordingly ought in tyme to be forseene, and preuented, for

itt hath ben all waies obserued that there is nothing that threatnes more danger, then the forflowing of tyme, and the neglect of oppertunity. Therefore good my Lords I beseech you to leaue mee noe longer destitute of meanes necessary for a place in this Consequence, for without itt there is noe Captaine that is able to oppose an enemy, nor noe place can be secured or defended. Itt is my dutie onely to adūtice & petiçon your Lo^{ps} in theis cases. And must of necessity leaue itt to yo^r wisdomes to doe therein what shall seeme best provided that if ought happen for want of what is fitt, the fault may not rest on mee, seeing I haue noe power more then befits an humble suto^r for his Ma^{ties} honno^r and safety, and I am the more instant in this, because I am sensible of the dangers that threatnes us at this present on eūye side, and the small meanes that I see in pparaçon to oppose itt, Good my Lords pardon mee if the zeale I beare to the prosperity of my Countrey inforce mee to presume to ymportune yo^r patience beyond good manno^{rs}. Itt may be I apphend that, that is not common, because I haue had some experience, more then eūye man hath had, and doe knowe what I could doe in like cases, & doe beeleiue that itt is not ympossible for an enemy to doe as much. But I will forbear to saie any more for feare to be thought ouer presumptuous, or too unmannerly. And so Comitting your Lo^{ps} to Gods holy proteccōn I euer rest

Yo^r Lo^{ps} humble Seruant /

FERD: GORGES.

From his Ma^{ties} Fort by PLYMOUTH, the 23 of 1627.

End : To the right honorable my very good Lords, the Lords of his Ma^{ties} most hono^{rb}le Privy Councill : theise. 23. of August, 1627. From S^r Ferdinand Gorges, at Plimouth.

(State

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. LXXVIII. No. 56.)

SIR F. GORGES TO CONWAY.

MY LORD. Here arriued this p̄sent daie one Salker Dirickson of Horne in Holland, who came from S^t Martyns the eleventh of this instant, by whome I perceau the Forts are not yet rendered, and that hee was tould by one of the Captaines of the Army that the Dukes Grace was resolued to beseige as well the Little Fortt, as the greater. That the French king had made seūall attempts to put in supplies into the Fortt, but some of them were taken and some other funcke, foe as itt is conceaued that the defendants are in great distresse, and that it was not possible for them to hould out fourteene daies after his deptime, if by some meanes or other they were not releiued in that tyme; That before his Coming from thence hee understood there was an attempt made with two or three shallopps, and one small Barque to thrust themselues in thorowe o^f guards that laye on the shoare sides, but for that there was a battery foe placed as beate on the bridge the Enemy had made to take in their puissions, hee heard that attempt came to nothing.

Hee saies farder that my Lord Duke himselfe is in good health and good hope, and that the Army is in good p̄sperity, and the 2500 men out of Ireland arriued there fixe daies before his coming from thence.

That the French kings people had raised some newe workes betweene their Fort and the towne of Rochell, and had allsoe erected another Fortt on the other side of the towne, foe as they are nowe besieged on euery quarter, to
ympeach

ympeach which the Rochellers haue discharged diuers Vol-
lies of great ordnance, and was answered with the like from
the French Army, foe as nowe the ware is opened on both
sides, and those of the religion thorowe all France in great
perplexity what to doe if that siege should Continewe. But
there is some hope that the French king wilbe inclynable
to send to treat of peace with his Ma^{tie} as a thing desired on
all parts, and theis are the vulgar rumors that hee heares of,
which I thought not unfitt to recomend to your Lops. beter
intelligence of those Affaires, being desirous to approue my
selfe euer.

Yo^r Lo^{ps} humble seruant /

FERD: GORGES.

PLYMOUTH FORTT this 18th of September. 1627.

End: Septemb. 18. 1627. S^r Ferdinando Gorge. Advertifinge the report of
a Duchman cominge from the Isle of Rhe: [Received at] Ibridg past
fou[re o]clocke in the morning / For his Ma^{ties} seruice. To the right honor-
able my much honored Lord, the Lord Conway Principall Secretary to his
most excellent Ma^{tie} at Court theis. From the Fort by Plymouth the 18th day
at eight at night ⁶⁵⁰ haft haft haft haft post haft re^c at Aishbtoñ xvij of
7^{ber}

⁶⁵⁰ The endorfements placed by the
postmasters upon this despatch shew how
rapidly the hasty post which bore it
travelled for life. The despatch left the
fort at Plymouth, at 8 P. M., September
18th, and reached Ivy Bridge, eleven
miles distant, in about eight hours.
Ashburton is twelve miles farther on;
but the hour at which it was received
there is obliterated, and the postmaster
made a mistake in recording the date;
but Exeter, nineteen miles farther, was
reached at twelve o'clock on the night
of the 19th. Thus far forty-two miles
had been accomplished in thirty hours.
Honiton is about sixteen miles from
Exeter, and Sherborne about forty miles
more, and this fifty-six miles was trav-
elled in something over thirty-five hours.

Shaftesbury, sixteen miles farther, was
reached at six o'clock on the night of
the 21st, and Andover, about thirty-two
miles farther, at past six o'clock on the
morning of the 22d; while Basingstoke,
about forty-six miles from London, was
reached at past one of the same day. Thus
one hundred and sixty-four miles had
been accomplished in eighty-nine hours.
We have no endorfement to shew at
what hour this despatch reached Secre-
tary Conway's hand, but probably not
earlier than the noon of the 23d, per-
haps eight hours less than five days after
leaving Plymouth, which is distant from
London about two hundred and ten
miles. We learn by the next letter that
this despatch was sent by the "runinge
packet," whatever that might be.

7^{ber} in the morning receiued at Exter about 12 at night 7^{er} 19. Honiton . . .
about . . . in the morning Sherborn past xj noun the xxjth Shafbre at vj
at nite Rec at Andover at past vj in the morning at Basingstoke past on.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. LXXXII. No. 29.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY CONWAY.

MY LORD. It is somthing strange unto mee, to heare from yo^r. Lo^{pp} that you haue receaued noe answere of yo^r. l^{res} you were pleased to giue mee notice of, the miscarriage of myne directed to yo^r. Lo^{pp}, in July last knowing very assuredly that I sent answere thereunto the 17 of that moneth by one M^r Withering, howe hee omitted the deliuey of them I knowe not. Wherein I humbly intreated that order might bee giuen that abuse might be thorowely diued into; For I knewe it was noe error of myne nor my seruants, but must be a devise of a Legerdemyne, tending more to the pjudice of his Ma^{ty}s seruice, then my pticular. Since that I haue sent seūall tymes, once by the runinge packet the 18 of September, and once by a messenger expresse, that went from hence, giving by them all a brief account of what came to my hands, according to the dutie of my place, and the respects I owe yo^r. Lo^{pp}, to whome I will euer acknowledge my selfe bound for maney and maney yo^r. noble fauours; Of late I haue forborne to write in particular for that I Conceaued that our geūall l^{res} were sufficient to giue accompt of the affaires here, as allso being somthing out of countenance to receaue noe aunswere of any of myne, but nowe I knowe where my erro^r of omiffion was, you shall find mee verie Carefull to obserue all those respects, that in duty and loue,

I am tied unto, yet if I be not soe ample as my hart desires, I hope you will hould mee excused, seeing the uncertainty of their arriuell.

As Concerning the state of affaires here, it is as well as the tymes and meanes will afford, yet you must knowe that the country is not without Clamo^r for want of their money, nor the Souldiers without wants of cloathes euen to Couer the nakednes of maney of them, and the Captaines and Officers griuously Complayning of their necessities, and had not Care ben taken to supply them with this thowfsand pownd, their spiritts would haue ben verie could, but nowe S^t John Chudleigh⁶⁵¹ is arriued, and I hope by satterdaie they will all bee aboard and readie to set saile, As for the supply of the Fort of S^t Martins I assure my selfe you haue heard at large from my Lord Willmot,⁶⁵² Who first receaued itt, and what my opinion of that busines is, yo^r Lo^{pp} should knowe if it were worthie yo^r trouble. And I haue maney busineses that much ymports mee at London this terme, if I may bee soe much bound to yo^r Lo^{pp}, as to haue leaue to come upp I would hould itt for a speciall fauour, and bee ready to receaue yo^r Comands in what lyes in mee. There is a Speech of some 25. saile of Dunkerkers. that are to come to joyne wth the French kings forces, for the releife of the Fortt, and
some

⁶⁵¹ Sir John Chudleigh was the son of John Chudleigh, Esq., of Ashton, Somersethire, a neighbor of Gorges, and "a man," says Prince, "who had a noble ambition to equal, if not excel, the bravest heroes and their noblest exploits: not at land, where is the least danger, but at sea. He died in the Straits of Magellan." Sir John, the son here spoken of, was knighted by

King Charles on September 22d, 1625, though his name does not appear in the Book of Knights.

⁶⁵² Sir Charles Wilmot was knighted by the Earl of Essex August 5th, 1599, and appointed Lord President of Connaught in 1616, and created Baron Wilmot of Athlone, January 4th, 1620. For valuable military services he was made Governor of Kerry.

some other of the king of Spaines Gallioons, the more certaintye is better knowne to yo^r. Lo^{pp} howsoever I am forry to see the yeare soe farr spent, and soe maney of o^r. shippes abroad, out of tryme and beaten wth the stormes and tempests. The Spaniards enemy to both Nations looking howe hee may take oppertunity to aduance his ends, and who onely is to be feared will giue the great blowe at last. But of this noe more saue that I beseech you to knowe I will euer rest in all I haue.

Yo^r. Lo^{pps} humble seruant /

FERD: GORGES.

Fort by PLYMOUTH the 19 of Octobris. 1627.

End : To the Right honorable my much honored Lord, the Lord Conway Principall Secretary to his most Excellent Ma^{tie} att Courtt, giue theis. October. 19. 1627. S^r Ferdinando Gorge. Concerning a lre formerly sent by him mentioning an inclosed paper that was not sent. Hee hath written diuers times since. The readines of the Shippes. The Countrey clamor for money: the souldiers for cloathes. A report of the Fort in Rhe beinge releued. Spanish shippes to joyne wth the French to dryue the English from the Island. Hee desires leaue to come to London.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. LXXXIV. No. 42.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY CONWAY.

MY LORD I presum your lo^{rp} hath reseed the two laste leteres I sent you sene w^{ch} ther hath nothinge coum unto my knowlege worthey your trubell, now my lor. of holand is fettinge sayell havinge a hopfull wind, a lite mon, and fayer wether, soe as by godes grafe by the nexte that Coumes from thenes you will heyr of ther hapey arivall ther.

The estat of thes partes hath bin soe fully related both by the leutenantes and Justis, to ther lo^{pp} as I know not mor to
be

be fayed in that kind, onely, I do heyr from all partes wher aney ar beleted, that they ar like to be throste out of dores, and it is impossibell to loke for better, spesualy ther beinge nether autoretey order or derexsion to warante aney to take cores therin, nor Cañ or offesor to govern or hould the Soulderes in displyinge under awe and obedenes: foe as if it be intended that the inconvenenfes likly to folow, shalbe avoyded, ther ll^{ps} mouste hasten the menes fite for it and that wth all possibell spede my truste is your lo^p wilbe plesed to remember my humbell sute to have leve to coum for london to dispathe thos besnes that cannot be don wthout my owne presentes even foe humbly restinge

Your lo^{rps} in all serves to be coumaunded /

PLYMOUTH this 8. of November 1627.

FERD: GORGES.

End: To the Right hon^r my mouche respeted lord Conaway prinsepall secretarey to his Magestey at Cort geve thes. Nouemb. 8. 1627. St^r Ferdinando Gorges. The E: of Holland ⁶⁵³ is readie to sett sayle. The Countrey is in much discontent upon the billitinge of theis new soldiers much disorder may happen there beinge neither money, nor order sent downe for them. Hee praies leaue to come to London.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. XCII. No. 73.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY CONWAY.

MAY ITT PLEASE YO^r. LO^{pp} The intelligences that wee haue of the French, & spanish forces, that are assembled neere
Rochell

⁶⁵³ Henry Rich, Earl of Holland, was a favorite of James I., and was employed by him as Ambassador to France to negotiate the marriage between his son Charles and Henrietta Maria. He attempted to keep in favor both with

the unfortunate Charles and Parliament, and lost the confidence of both. Finally he openly espoused the cause of the king, whereby he drew upon himself the enmity of Cromwell, and was beheaded March 9th, 1648.

Rochell (wth confideraçon of the land Armeý that is likewise neere unto them, comanded by the pson of a young kinge accompanied with foe maney hott spirritts, that are fraighted with desire of revenge, and hope of honno^r;) hath given occasion to some of the discreetest Comanders of his Ma^{ties} shippes that are here, to Consider by what meanes the estate of his Ma^{ties} affaires in this place might bee best prouided for. And upon the motion of S^r Thomas Button⁶⁵⁴ unto mee, that there might bee Conference hade with S^r Henry Marvyn, and S^r James Bagge what was best to be done therein. I presently tooke the oppertunity to satisfie the same as in duty it became mee, and on opening the busines, I found in them a sharpe apprehençon of the danger, and a willingnes in all, to doe there best to preuent itt, and entring into discourse with them of the perticulers, I found things to stand in verie desperate case, for the shippes lyinge not foe conveniently as was meete, being subiect unto maney hazardes, and their men sicke, and unable to doe what may bee expected from them, and the infection foe strong amongst them, that fewe of the Captaines, Masters, or officers, durst lye aboard, and to supply them wth newe untill the diseased were brought ashoare, and the shippes Clensed, and made hole-some, was to send foe maney more into the Jawes of death. Whereuppon it was concluded that the sicke should haue prouision made to entertayne them upon the Land, the
shippes

⁶⁵⁴ Captain Thomas Button achieved fame as a navigator, having, in 1612, made a voyage in search of the Northwest Passage. He sailed through Hudson's Strait, and was the first navigator who crossed Hudson's Bay from east to

west. On his return to England he received considerable attention for his daring voyage, and was rewarded by King James with the honor of knighthood, August 30th, 1616.

shippes that laye in hazard, to be drawne upp neerer to Often, farder out of the tide, and under more shelter, and better security, that S^r Thomas Button should ride with his two shippes betweene the Iseland, and the Mayne, and some one other of the small shippes, att Cawfen-Bay, and a small Pinace to lye of and on before the harbour for intelligence. And that the Countrey might bee in the more readines on aney allarūm, the watches on the Coasts to be Comanded, Carefully to obserue such direccons as formerly they had receaued on like occasions, and of this much for the present, I thought itt my duty to giue yo^r Lo^{pp} aduertisment of, that by yo^r honno^{rs} meanes I may understand, howe itt fortes with their Lo^{pps} approbacons, as allsoe their Lo^{pps} farder pleasures, what else their wisdomes shall approue to be more Convenient, that soe I may direct my selfe according to my duty therein.

And I may not omitt to take the present occasion to remember yo^r Lo^{pp}, howe longe I haue ben a suto^r for supplies for this place, and meanes to repaire the defects thereof, which nowe lyes in rewen, and in a mannor unguardable, as I doubt not but yo^r Lo^{pp} hath well obserued heretofore, and seeing the enemy hath made soe neere an approach unto o^r Coasts, itt is more then tyme (in my poore opinion) some speedey order were giuen, for the strengthening of the guardes, wth the addition of some Compitent numbers fitt to attend such a seruice. And although I cannot doubt of their Lo^{pps} graue wisdomes, and great prouident cares upon knowledge hereof to suffer noe tyme to be ouer slipt for dispatch hereunto. Yet I must not neglecte (out of the duty and obedience I owe to his Ma^{tie}) but againe, and againe,
humbly

humbly to befeech yo^r Lo^{pp} wth all expediçon to be a meanes, that some present order may be given herein, that foe the worst may bee avoyded in tyme, and the honno^r, and safety of his Ma^{tie} provided for. And I shall acknowledge my selfe bound to yo^r Lo^{pp}, as for maney other fauours, foe for this, and will euer bee ready to approue my selfe.

Yo^r Lo^{pps} in all I am able to ferue you /

FERD: GORGES.

From his Ma^{ties} Fortt by PLYMOUTH the eight of February 1627.

End: To the right hon^{ble} my much honored Lord, the Lord Viscounte Kill-Ulter. Principall Secretarie of State att Courtt giue theise. Februarie 8. 1627. S^r Ferdinando Gorge.

(State Papers, Domestic Correspondence, Charles I., Vol. L. No. 1.)

PETITION OF SIR F. GORGES TO THE COUNCIL.

To the right hono^{ble} the Lords of his Ma^{ts} most hono^{ble} Priuie Councell.

The humble petiçon of S^r Fardinando Gorges Knight.

Whereas the officers and soldiers of his Ma^{ts}: Fort and Isleland by Plymouth being unpaid their entertaynem^t for theis 3 yeeres & a quarter ended at Christmas haue endured such extremities (notwthstandinge all the meanes, this petiçoner by himselfe and his frends could make for their sustentaçon) that death by famyne hath overtaken some of them, and other some haue suffered y^e highest degree of want, the rather increased through the late Visitation of Plymouth beinge (poore wretches) deprived of the releiffe of their frends abandoninge that place /

And whereas this petiçon^r is by reason of his longe forbear-
inge

inge foe pressed upon by his owne most ymportunate necessities, as it distroyes all thoughts of the best things he ayimed at for his Ma^{ts}: service, & foe over charged wth such continual cryes of the soldiers sent all most in daylie messages and petiçons, as inforceth this petiçon^r humblie to acquaint yo^r lo^{ps}: therewth that by yo^r Compassionate p^rvidence the worst maie be p^rvented in tyme.

And whereas yo^r petiçon^r is now inforced to attend his Ma^{ts} Comission in those pts where he hath latelie forfeited his creditt to manie of the poore inhabitants to whome he wth others stood ingaged for releife of the soldiers belited in that County, he conceaues it would be noe meane aduancement to that service nowe intended if they might find the monies to be levied there, disposed of to the p^rsent defence of that County & satisfacçon to y^e office^{rs} & poore soldiers serving amongst them.

Maie it please yo^r lo^{ps} to giue order to the lo: Tresorer to the same effect, from whence yo^r petiçon^r doth ground more certaine hope of y^e good successe of that ymployment & through w^{ch} yo^r pet^r shall receaue some satisfacçon & yo^r lo^{ps} find him to continue his prayers for all increase of honors.

[FERD. GORGES.]

[No endorsement.]

(Colonial Papers, Vol. VI. No. 44.)

SIR F. GORGES TO CAPTAIN JOHN MASON.

S^r I perceaue by yo^r lēre of the xijth of this instant y^t there is ariued a Shipp att Plymouth lately come from
the

the Dutch Plantacon in the parts of New England, and the course you haue taken for the staye of her untill the pleasure of the State bee further knowne wherein you haue done exceeding well, as for the lere yo^u write unto mee for, I haue it not heere to send you, neither doe I thinke it of anie greate moment if I had it, for the matter wee are to stand upon is the Just tittle his Ma^y hath unto those p^s both in respect of the first discouery thereof by subjects of this Nation, the Primer set fure,⁶⁵⁵ and the actuall possession thereof by vertue of the señall Patents graunted from their Ma^{ts} the kings our Soueraignes, w^{ch} I assure my selfe they nor their Maisters will not goe about to annihilat, or make void, Besides yo^u may remember that it pleased his late Ma^{tie} kinge, James of famous memory to giue order to his Ambafato^r wth the States of the vnited Provinces to question by what authority any of their subjects tooke vpon them to haue to doe in those Limitts wthout his Lycence, To w^{ch} they aunswered that they knew of none of theirs that offended therein, but if there were any such, it was out of their private adventures, and not by any authority deriued frō them, neither had they anie purpose to iustefie their pceedings therein, as more at large it may appeare by the Ambaffato^{rs} aunswere made from them in y^t behaulfe as is well knowne to my lord of Arundell and diuers others of the lords.

For my owne part I am as fory as yo^u are I cannot bee soe suddenly att london as you desire I shold bee but imediatly after Easter God willing I will come upp, onely to putt those busineses in the Way it ought to bee in, both for
the

⁶⁵⁵ The primer seizure.

the honor of his Ma^{tie} and State, and the pticuler benefitt of our felves, being foe farr ingaged therein as wee are.

As for the ptie you write of that hath lived wth the Dutch foe longe time I wishe yo^u would not omitt to keepe him on reasonable condiçons untill my comeing vpp, in the meane while that you will informe your selfe of the strength they haue where they liue, how fortified, & ꝓuided for, how farr vpp, into the Maine they bee, What other Commodity they finde besides their Trade of furs, what Cattle, what Horses, and what carriages they make vse of wth what people they hold Coraspondancy wthall, and what Enemyes they haue, and in what parts of the Country ther Enemyes, or freinds are.

That you use yo^r best meanes to ꝓlonge the staye of the Shipp att Plymouth, till the Lords may bee thorowly satisfied from us, of the Consequence of those busineses, and how fitt it wilbee they bee prohibited the Trade of those parts for many Reasons not sudenly vnderstood; besides the dishono^r offred his Ma^{tie} to Trench on his Ma^{ts} Terretoryes wthout leaue, as in case of that nature ought to bee fought for, his Ma^{tie} haueing ꝓhibited his owne subiects, not free of those Terretoryes, from ꝓsuming to frequent those pts wthout Lycence first had from the Councell for those Affaires.

What is more to bee done for the ꝓsent I must leave to yo^r owne Judgem^t that knowes as well as my selfe what course to take therein, assuring yo^u there shal bee nothing wantinge in my powre for the makeinge good of our Undertakings; for the sending, or bringin of the Horses promised by my lord Gorges, and my selfe when you finde the time fitt for it, lett mee knowe asmuch, and I will not ꝓlonge the
dispatch

dispatch of them from their parts. I lately write to M^r Eyre⁶⁵⁶ my owne Resolu^{ti}on w^{ch} I will make good, lett others doe as they will, and I hope yo^u will not dispaire allthoughe you finde a Couldnes in such as yett understands not the busines aright. I rec^d a l^{re} from M^r Eyre, and by it I understood, how my Lord of Warwick had Nobly p^rmis^d to doe for the furtherance of our purpose, to whome I hope yo^u will apply your selfe att this p^rsent for to second the following of the Lords as cause shall require, att my owne Cominge vpp you shall see I will putt more life to itt, then heertofore I seemed to doe, as haueing euery day more and more reason foe to doe; lett this longe l^{re} to yo^u excuse my not writing to M^r Eyre att this time, (for it is now late, and my wife not very well), to whome I desire to bee remembered, and foe to yo^u and to yo^r bedfellow assureing yo^u of mee as of

Yo^r true freind to be [ever] Comaunded /

FERD. GORGE.

BRISTOLL the 18th of March 1631.

End: To his very loveing freind Captaine John Mason att his house att Debtfford theis d^d 1631. Leaue this l^{re} att M^r Thomas Eyres his house in Fanchurch street, in an alley entring in at the signe of the Tallowchandler to bee d^d as abouesaid.

(Colonial

⁶⁵⁶ Thomas Eyre was one of the grantees in the Laconia Patent, and "Clarke and Accountant" of the Company, as well as its business agent in London. He was also Secretary of the Council for New England. An interesting letter from him may be found in

the *Provincial Papers of New Hampshire*, Vol. I. pp. 61-65. He did not emigrate to America, but lived, and probably died, at his house in "Fanchurch street, in an alley entring in at the signe of the Tallowchandler."

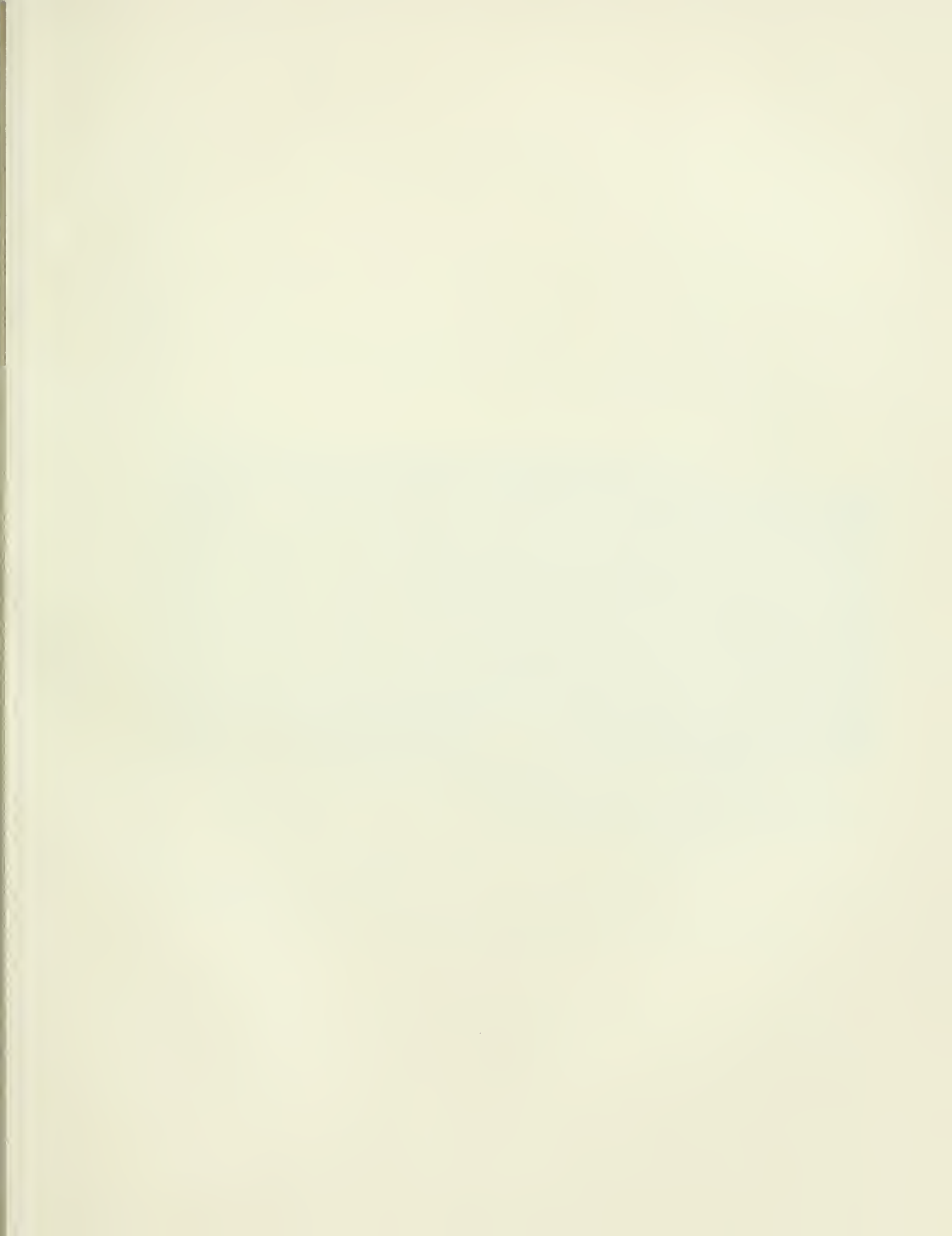
(Colonial Papers, Vol. VI. No. 52.)

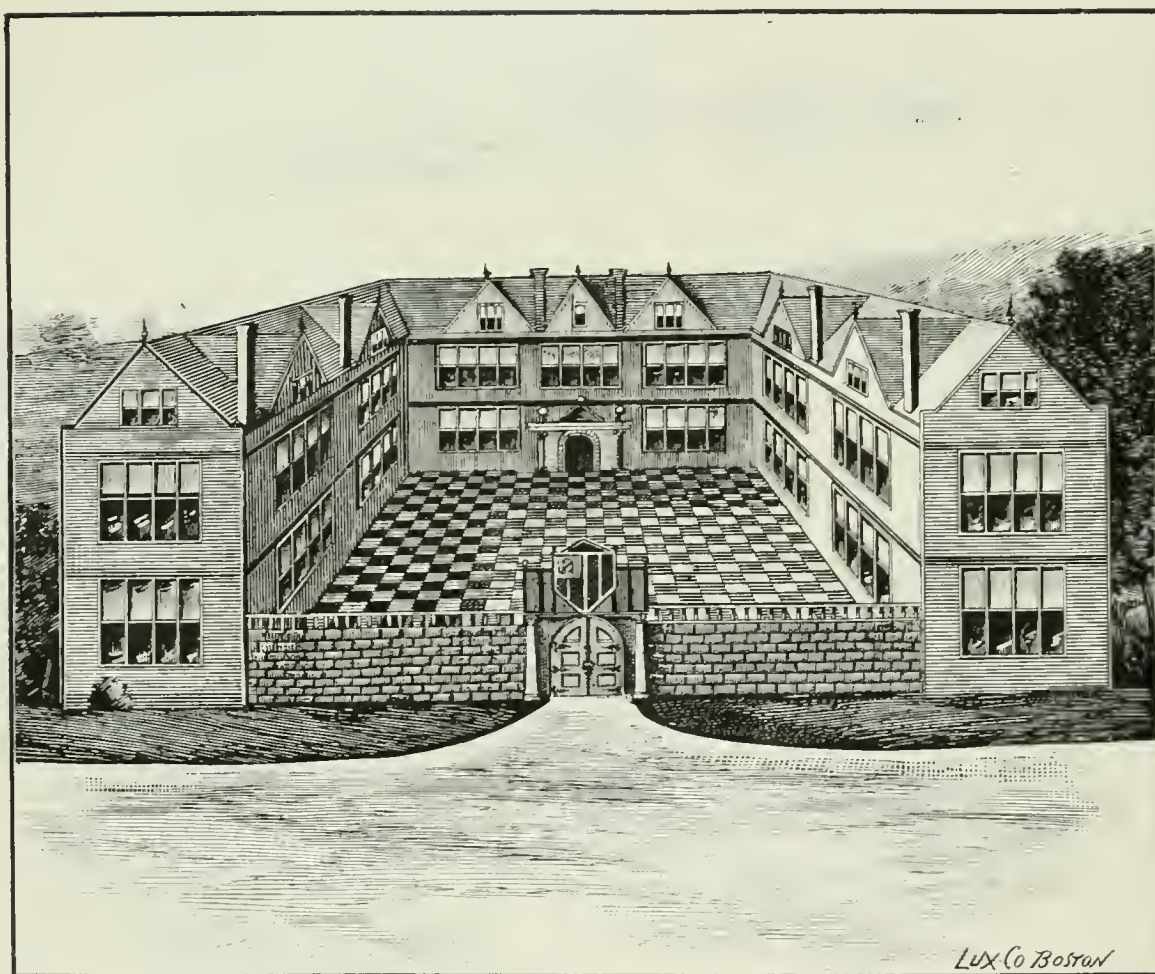
SIR F. GORGES TO CAPTAIN JOHN MASON.

S^r On Thursday night I receaued yours of the 30th of March by w^{ch} I understand howe yo^u haue pceeded against those of the Dutch Plantacon, I am glade the busines is before the Lords, I hope they will not bee ouerhasty in concluding a busines of that nature, confidering howe much it Concernes both the honor of the Kinge, and State to make good the interest they haue therein, yo^u shalbee assured I will not ptracte any time of my coming vpp, Butt I must acquaint yo^u wth an unhappy accident that beefell mee the same day I receaued yo^{rs}; For haueing bine wth my lord Pawlett,⁶⁵⁷ and diuers others of my priuate freinds att a horse Race I tooke a fale from my horse, and am now in soe much extremetie of paine, as I am not able to moue, or stirr, but as I am helped by maine strength of my f^rvaunts, not wthstanding by Gods fauour I hope to bee wth you in very shorte time, what shifte soever I make to Travell; I am sory to heere you are soe poorely seconded in a matter soe iust, and hon^{ble}; I conceiue you may haue from M^r Shirly a Coppy of that w^{ch} came to my hands from those of New Plymouth, wth more pticulers, then came to mee, itt may please yo^u that hee may bee spoken wth about it; I doubt not but att my cominge. I shalbee able to giue both his Ma^{ty}, and the Lords sufficient fatisfacon

⁶⁵⁷ Sir John Poulett was made Lord of Hinton St. George, June 23d, 1627. He was knighted, with his eldest son, Sir John, by the Earl of Lindsey, on board the ship *Mary-honor*. He took an ac-

tive part, on the king's side, in the rebellion, but was pardoned by Parliament upon paying a fine of £4,200. He died March 20, 1649.





The House of Sir Ferdinando Gorges at Bristol,
From "Exact Delineation of the Famous City of Bristoll," A. D. 1673.

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fatisfaçcon for to fortifie the Justefyinge (not the stay of the Shipp onely,) but to profecute their displanting from thence, And that w^{ch} is now to bee desired is that wee may bee heard to speake before ought bee done for the Shippes dispatch I hope yo^r will make some shifte to send away the horses I sent you before the receipte of M^r Eyres to the contrary, for I knowe they wilbee of more seruice, and worth then any you will serue your selues wthall att the Islands, besides heere is noe Shipping that goes from hence till towards the Winter quarter, but what yo^r doe betweene yo^r shall please mee, though I desire Extreemly they may goe att this present, though it were wholly on my owne accompte for their Transportaçon wth the horses; lett this suffice I pray you for this present for that my paine will suffer mee to say noe more att this time; faue onely I beseech you to Remember my humble seruice to my Lord Marshall and to Lett his hono^r knowe the Misfortune that retaynes mee from attending his Lo^{vp} soe soone as my harte desires, and soe much you may bee pleased to lett my Lord of Warwick knowe in like Manner, wth the remembrance of my seruice to his Lo^{vp} beseeching him not to bee slacke wherein you knowe his helpe may further the test Wee shall gaine thereby, Wilbee the knowledge of what may bee expected from him heereafter, and soe I comitt yo^r to God and Reste /

Yo^r assured Loveing freind /

FERD. GORGES.

BRISTOLL the vj^o Aprill 1632 /

End : To his assured loveing freind Captaine John Mason att his howse att Debtford p^rsent / theise 1632 April 6. S^r Ferdinand Gorges to Cap^t. Mason
Hollanders in Virginia /

(Provincial Records of New Hampshire, Book I. p. 27.)

SIR F. GORGES AND J. MASON TO T. WANNERTON ⁶⁵⁸ AND
A. GIBBONS. ⁶⁵⁹

MR. WANNERTON AND MR. GIBBINS: These are to let you know that wee, wth the consent of the rest of our partners, have made a devision of all our land lying on the north-east side of the harbor and river of Pascattaway of the quantities of w^{ch} lands and bounds agreed upon for every man's part, we send you a coppie of the draft, desiring your furtherance, with the advise of Capt Norton and Mr. Godfrey, ⁶⁶⁰ to set out the lynes of division betwixt our lands and the lands of our partners next adioning, because we have not onelie each of us shipped people present to plant uppon our owne lands, at our owne charges, but have given direction to invite and authoritie to receive such others as may be had to be tenants, to plant and live there, for the more speedie peopling of the countrie. And whereas
there

⁶⁵⁸ Thomas Wannerton was an associate grantee in the Laconia Patent to Gorges, Mason, and others, of the 3d November, 1631. He was a conspicuous figure in early New England history, chiefly on account of his reckless daring and defiance of moral law. Savage, in *Winthrop's Journal*, says that "Wannerton seems to have died as he lived." He was shot dead while making an unprovoked attack upon the farmhouse of D'Aulnay, Governor of Acadia, at Penobscot, in 1644.

⁶⁵⁹ Ambrose Gibbons was the agent of Captain John Mason, and factor of the Company of Laconia. He was an energetic and useful man in the little

colony on the Piscataqua, and is a distinguished figure in the early history of New Hampshire. He died July 1st, 1656. His descendants in New England are numerous.

⁶⁶⁰ Edward Godfrey, of Barnend, Wilmington, Kent, born in 1584, who, says Dr. Banks, "participated in all the trials of colonization in Maine, from 1629 to 1655, when he found himself stripped of lands and authority, a victim of the usurpation of Massachusetts." He represented the Gorges government, as Governor, for several years preceding his return home to prosecute his claims in England, where he died, a prisoner for debt, in the Fleet, Ludgate, in 1663.

there is belonging unto me, Sir Ferdinando Gorges, and unto Capt Mafon, for himself, and for Mr. John Cotton⁶⁶¹ and his deceased brother, Mr. William Cotton, both whose interests Capt. Mafon hath bought, the one halfe of all matters mentioned in the inventorie of householde stuffe and implements left in trust wth you by Capt. Neale,⁶⁶² whereunto you have subscribed y^{or} names, and whereof a coppie is herewth sent, we desire you to cause an equall division, as neere as possible may, to be made of all the saide matters mentioned in the inventory in kinde, or if some of them cannot be soe divided, then the one halfe to be made equall to the other in valew of all the saide matters, except the cattell and suites of apparell and such other things as belong peculiarly to Capt. Mafon, and to deliver the saide one halfe of all the saide matters so to be divided unto Mr. Henry Jocelyn,⁶⁶³ for the use of our Plantations; taking an inventory thereof
under

⁶⁶¹ John Cotton was admitted to Trinity College, Cambridge, at the age of thirteen, and by his conspicuous ability soon became the head lecturer of Emanuel College. In 1612 he became the minister of Boston, Lincolnshire; but incurring the hostility of Laud, on account of a charge that he did not kneel at the sacrament, he was obliged to flee from his home to escape persecution. He reached the shores of New England, after great perils, September 4, 1633, and soon after became a colleague of Rev. Mr. Wilson, in the church at Boston, with which he remained connected for a period of nineteen years. He died, December 23d, 1652. William Cotton, his brother, did not emigrate from England. For an extended account of John Cotton, *vide Magnalia Christi Americana*, by Cot-

ton Mather, D.D., F.R.S., Hartford, 1855, Vol. I. pp. 252-286.

⁶⁶² Captain Walter Neale, his title being a military one, came to New England with the colony sent to the Piscataqua by Gorges and Mafon in 1630. He was the governor of the plantation for three years, at the end of which period he returned to England, where we find him, several years later, applying for the governorship of New England, without success, when he passes from view.

⁶⁶³ Henry Jocelyn was one of Sir Ferdinando's most trusted agents in Maine. He was a man of ability and probity, and faithfully represented his patron's interests to the last. He was a resident of Black Point, near Portland, until the Indian War, when he went to Pemaquid, where he died in 1683.

under his hand, of all you shall so deliver hime, and making certificate to us thereof. And for your so doing, this shall be your sufficient warrant and discharge. And so we rest,

Y^r verie lovinge friends,

FERDIN: GORGE.

JOHN MASON.

PORTSMOUTH, Maye 5th, 1634.

End: Sir Fer: Gorge and Mr. Mafon, to Mr. Wannerton and Mr. Gibbins, 5th May, 1634.

(Colonial Papers, Vol. VIII. No. 14.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE KING.

FOR that the world takes notice, his Ma^{tie} hath bin pleased to take the Mannaging of the Affaires of the severall plantaçons into his owne hands: It is conceived, that it will haue the freer passage under so absolute a power, wthout losse of tyme or oportunity. And for that the plantaçon of New England is now raised, unto so much eminencye some inhabitants or other of his Ma^{ty}s owne subjects.

It is humbly referred to better confideraçon, how necessary it is that it should be divided into severall provinces, both for the ease of the subject in case of Justice and more conveniency of the publik govern^t in case of comon defence.

That to those provinces there be assigned governors & other assistants and officers for adminiftraçon of Publik Justice and preservaçon of the comon peace betweene partie & partie.

That both for the honor of his Ma^{ty} and the satisfacçon of such noble & geñous spirits as willingly interesse themselves

selves in those undertakings. It is likewise desired that some person of honor may be assigned under the title of Lord Governor or Lord livetenaunt to represent his Ma^{ty} person for the settelling of A publike state, wth that honor gravity and order that becomes so great a Majesty & so grave a Counsell that are the disposers thereof.

That the lord governor or Lord livetenaunt be assisted wth such other officers as are proper to such a foundacon. That is to say; one Lo: Bishop A Chauncellor A Tresorer A Marshall an Admirall A Maister of the ordinance and a Secretary of State, wth such other Counsellors as shalbe thought necessary assistants vnto them.

These to have power to erect Courts of Justice to settle subordinate officers give limits to the severall provinces and make such other orders & institutions, as shalbe found necessary Not fore thought upon by his Ma^{ty} & his Counsell so farre forth as by his Com^{ssion} he shalbe therunto lymited.

That in case it maie be thought, the chardge of settling such a kinde of goverment wth those titles, and other officers of such eminence may be too great a chardge for his Ma^{ty}. so sodainely to undergoe: It is not doubted but there wilbe found some of extraordinary quality that being honored wth his Ma^{ty} Com^{maund} and imployed in that Manner shall undertake it w^{thout} his Ma^{ty} Chardge upon such other condiçons as shall tend to his Ma^{ty} future proffit and the good of the publike. Neither shall the persons soe called, be w^{thout} good meanes of themselves to assist them in the maintenance of their severall places, being neither papistically nor scizmattically affected but truely reverenceing the Hyrarchy of the church & faithfully tendering the publike
good

good wth the honor of his Ma^{tie} and the glory of God Almightye.

That if some such course as this be neglected, or a slighter way observd in sending over one or more persons of meane fortunes and reputaçon; The better sort will contemne the imployment, The lesse worthy dishonor it, his Ma^{ts} service be hindered, The present oportunitie omitted And the expectaçon of the publike happines defeated, our Nation slighted, and our Attempts of the best designe derided.

Which cannot be feared in this case seeing it hath already bin soe gratiouſly and so gravely deliberated & concluded upon Howsoever it be given out by the sectaries; That it is like to have but a slow progresse, or peradventure fall to ground for want of some of power to followe it, or at least not to receive its dispatch, before they shall finde themselves capeable to defend the liberty they haue attained unto, supposinge his Ma^{tie} wilbe then unwillinge to exhauste his Treasure, to reduce their obedience to his Authority especially when he shall finde them armed wth a defensive power and they shall seeme to feede the State wth a submissive obedience, and that but according to their owne likeings neither, What dishonor and dainger this maie drawe wth it, is needeles to be remembered by mee, seeing it is more then apparent by their present practises & publike proceedings; And therefore ought (in common opinion) to be speedily provided for, The better also to encourage his Ma^{ts} servants that labour the prevention of the worst according to that duety they owe & the zeale they beare to the soveraigne Ma^{tie} As also remembrance that it is easier by neglect, or delay to quench the good affections of honest men, then to reforme
the

the errors of malicious spirits especially being once gotten to a powerfull head, as the Sectaries are sodainely like to doe.

All w^{ch} is humbly referred to his Ma^{ts} Royall pleasure wth like humility craving pardon, if I have strayed beyond the lymits assigned me, That doe and ever will acknowledg my selfe.

His Ma^{ts} most humble and most obedient subject &
servant /

FERDE: GORGES.

End: 12th Maij: 1634. St. Ferdinando Gorges: New England.

(Colonial Papers, Vol. VIII. No. 17.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY WINDEBANK.⁶⁶⁴

RIGHT HON^r: I hope I haue already sufficiently enlarged my selfe how necessary I conceiue it is some speedy course were taken for the setling of the affaires of New-England, both for his Majesties honour and the publicke good of the subjects that doe languish for want thereof, nor can I doubt but that your honour hath before this as carefully and as nobley acquainted his Majestie and their Lo^{pps} therewith, soe soone as I may heare how it is accepted of, and the resolution grounded thereuppon, I will not faile (for my particular) to adde my best endeavour to satisfie any doubt that may arise in the consideration thereof if I shalbe called there unto,

⁶⁶⁴ Sir Francis Windebank was a fellow-student and close friend of Laud; and when the latter attained power Windebank secured the secretaryship made vacant by the death of Sir Dudley Carleton. His friendship for Laud drew upon him the enmity of the Parliamentary party; and when the storm of rebellion burst upon the royalists he fled to France, where he died in 1646.

unto, in the meane tyme I will take upon me the humble bouldnesse to acquaint your honour that haueing had conferance with my Lord of Linsey⁶⁶⁵ and my Lord Gorges and some others about the state of those busineses, (being both of them formerly of the councell of those affaires) and deliuering to them my opinion how it might be made hon^r to his Majesty and profittable to his Realmes if persons of worth might be found willing to engadge themselves as actors in the managing thereof, neither of them but seemed soe well to relish it as they protested to me (in private) that if his Majestie were pleased to accepte of their service and to call them thereunto they would willingly undertake it vppon such termes as might be agreeable to the state of such a desighn for my selfe (S^r) I hope I haue all ready sayd enought to manifest my zeale thereunto and I beseech you to beleue this much of me, whom (you may partly remember) had the honour to be breed under those great princes that well understood the state of their neybour and how to lay the ground to advance their ends longe before hand, the better to secure their owne and to be able to affront their enimies far from home, if I haue attained ought either from their principlly, my owne experience or practise or from any other the most actiuest and of best iudgment and experience that way with whom I haue beene formerly acquainted in those tymes of action, it was but to put the same in execution if occasion serued, or to leaue the knowledge thereof where it was dew, and for whose sakes I allwayes laboured in that kind I could say more of the fittnesse of this businesse

⁶⁶⁵ Sir William Alexander.

neffe in that behalfe, but I leaue it for a fayrer opportunity knowing that tyme will produce what is not as yet commonly thought vppon and I will forbear to be farther troublesome to your honⁿ then becomes

Your honours humble seruant / FERDE. GORGES.

from my hous in ASHTON this 6. of Jun. 1634/ nyer bristow.

End: To the Right hon^r S^r Franfes Wenebanke prensypall secretairey to his Majestey geve thes / New England 6: June: 1634. S^r ferdinando Gorges.

(Colonial Papers, Vol. VIII. No. 34.)

CONSIDERATIONS BY SIR F. GORGES.

CONSIDERATIONS necessarie to be resolved uppon in settling the Gouvernor for New England.

First seeing that there is such a number of discontented persons, gotten into the best parts of the country already, and that they are dailie seconded wth multitudes, that are sent from hence by their freinds and agents that support and encourageth them thereunto. Whether it were not fitt in policy of State A Restraint were made in that case untill licence were obtained from the lords, and that such as would goe over, were bound to be conformable to the rights & Ceremonies, of the Church.

That forasmuch as Authoritie & a large com^{mission} is of noe effect where power is wanting to put the same in execution especially when it is to be imployed over a multitude, that aime at nothing more, than to shake of all Supreme power.

Whether it were not proper to second such authority wth competent power to prevent the scornes & insolencies, that in default thereof might be offered to the officers, to be imployed, The disgrace reverting from whence it was derived.

That seeing the evils that may insue for want of tymely prevention, doe light aswell vpon the whole nation as the Soveraigne Ma^{tie} & his Counsell; There is noe reason but that the better sort of the nation be called to give their seconds to prevent the evils, w^{ch} the honorable & honest affected cannot denie, seeing how ready the malicious & feditious are to circumvent what may hinder their practises.

That therefore his Ma^{tie} maie be pleased by his gracious letters, To the livetenaunt & Justices of the severall Counties together wth the gentlemen & other of the best affections to his Ma^{ties} service, and the Commonwealth To send wth his governor such a Competent number of persons fit for plantation as their affections leads them vnto either Joyntly or severally as they please & those to be taken up and chosen out of such young persons as being married haue neither howse nor home of their owne, but what they can get by their laboures, & yet are subject to manie children who (if their parents laboure faile) fall to be chardgable to the parrishes, w^{ch} by this imployment is p^rvented And the setters out of them, shall haue a Competent por^{ti}on of land allotted vnto them in perpetuity to plant & manure to their best advantages So as they shall see the meanes for them to make their proffitts againe for their disbursements.

Other

Other advertifements to be confidered of That howsoever the agent of New Plimouth p̃tende that the coming of the Dutch into the River of Connecticut, was wthout their knowledge and that they did labour to set downe by them to prevent their farther intrusion upon his Ma^{ty}s Territories, It maie be doubted that they rather had intelligence wth them, and that it was a practise betweene them: For two speciall reasons The one that seeing the Rivers to the Eastwards of them be already planted, by such as favoure not their waies & opinions; To prevent that none of the like Conditions come to the West, they make it their Coloure to sit downe by the dutch That so they might both enlarge their extent and be free from the danger that might ensue from such a neighbourhood; neither were they hopeles that by such a peece of service, they might obtaine Commission to continue their possession and so haue more lawfull warrant for what they had done.

Their second reason is That findeing his Ma^{ty}es and their Lor^{ps} begin to be sensible of their disaffections both to his Ma^{ty}s goverment & the state Ecclesiasticall, they seeke in tyme to fortifie themselves, by the aid of the dutch & to assuer their trade & commerce by their meanes, if they be prohibited anie from hence as they expect to be, if they submit not as they ought, wthin all probability they intended not to doe, till they finde themselves enforced thereunto, by a stronger hand than their owne.

I wish this were but conjectured, but I feare it will appeare in the end to be too true Howsoever there is the lesse danger to be feared when the worst is prevented.

These things Considered to graunt them more extent, or
authority

authority, were not safe: but to leave them to further order from their Lo^{ps} or the governor to be sent according to his Com^{mission} or Instru^{ctions} to be given in that, or the like cases.

What fruit is to be expected from such, as they are, Who dare to say That if a drunken governor be sent over there, if they take him drunke they will put him in the stocks & send him back againe, Whether it be not more than tyme these people should be looked unto is humbly referred to better consideracon.

End: N: England S^r Ferd^o Gorges Nou. 1634.

(Colonial Papers, Vol. VIII. No. 34. I.)

PROPOSED DRAFT OF A LETTER FROM THE KING TO
LIEUTENANTS-JUSTICES.

RIGHT TRUSTY & WELL BELOVED wee greete yo^u

It was the singuler care of o^r most honored lord and father of blessed memery; To indevoure by all iust & kingly meanes, The propagating of the Christian faith, the inlarging of his dominions, and the advauncement of the publike happines of his people: w^{ch} was the reason that moved him by his Royall authority, to incourage certaine his good subjects in their undertakeings, to transport severall Colonies into those parts of America, that were not inhabited by any Christian princes or people, Since w^{ch} tyme there hath come unto us & o^r Counsell, so manie complaints of the abuses committed by some, that have by indirect meanes gotten themselves interressed, in the lymitts formerly passed to others,

ers, from whence hath risen manie dangerous consequences & manie more like to ensue.

Having thereupon deliberatly advised wth our Counsell of State of the consequence of such a busines: Wee finde it a principall parte of o^r kingly duety; to administer tymely remedy for reforma^{cion}, as well in respect of o^r honor, as for the future happines that may ensue, to these o^r Realmes, & the establisshing of true religeon amongst the Salvages.

To w^{ch} purpose we have assigned certaine of, o^r Counsell whom wee haue specially authorised for that service, diligently to take care thereof from tyme to tyme.

And having given directions, for a Governor to be sent thether, for ordering the publike affaires betweene the severall planta^{cion}s, and to settle a Counsell of State deliberatly to determine of a vniforme way, for the administration of Justice through the whole Country, and to provide for the comon defence of o^r good subjects, inhabiting there, in such sorte as may give us content therein. According to the tenor of our Co^mission graunted, and the instructions he shall receave from us, or o^r said Counsell.

Now forasmuch as this was a busines from the begining tending to the publik good of o^r Realmes, Wee are for that cause gratioufly pleased, to make it free for all o^r well affected people, throughout o^r kingdomes to participate thereof, w^{ch} by these o^r l^res wee do manifest & declare unto yo^u, Straightly requiring yo^u to publish the same, to so manie of the better sort, & the most active spirits in that County, as yo^u shall thinke fit to call unto yo^u, Who by yo^r examples may be encouraged to joyne in sending over wth o^r said Governor, such a competent number of people meete for
planta^{cion},

plantacon, wth all necessary provisions fit for that imploym. as their zeale to the glory of God their good affection to o^r service, & the weale publik shall induce them. sending wth them some one or more discrete & worthy persons to take charge of their employments & to see their duties performed according to yo^r mutuall direcons And that there be (above all) an especial care had, to the honesty of their lives & conversation, whome they send, because men so sent are like to propagate & confirme a plantacon, whereas the looser sorte pve but losse to the adventurer & a dishonor to the kingdome.

To whome wee shall cause to be assigned such a proportion of lands, as maie give content for the present; The same to be enlarged as shalbe thought fit, upon a second or third division, To be appropriated to the severall undertakers or adventurers, & their heires, for their best benefit in perpetuity.

Of this o^r pleasure wee expect to receive a speedy answer, wth a perticuler accompt of the names of such as shall interesse themselves herein, & what numbers of people they resolve to send, to be in a redynes according to such tyme, as by o^r Counsell shalbe directed.

End: 3^o Nouem: 1634: S^t Ferdinando Gorges.

(Colonial Papers, Vol. IX. No. 115.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

MAIE IT PLEASE YO^R. HONNO^R. It is humbly desired that their Lo^{PPS} wilbee pleased to take into their Consideracons,
the

the hinderances that followes vpon this generall restraint of the Undertakers of Forraigne Plantaçons to transport such people as are for necessary imployments or such as are fitt to goe for the better fortifying of his Ma^{ties} authority in those partes.

That therefore it may receave its limitaçon to such, onely as are factiously affected, or Scismatically inclined: who adresse themselues principally to the Baye of the Maffachusetts, for the strengtheing of that place to assure their owne ends.

For p̃vençon whereof, their Lo^{pps} maye bee pleased to phibite any more to goe to that place, but under such Cautions & Condiçons as shall seeme good to their wisdomes.

That the rest that are to bee sent, or shall undertake anie Plantaçon in anie other of those Teretories may onely receave such Condiçons from their Lo^{pps} or the Governo^r that is to goe, as is fitt for free Subjects, according unto the liberties granted them by his Ma^{ties} Royall Charter.

That otherwaies they would bee pleased to take knowledge it wilbee infinitely to the hinderances of his Ma^{ties} Service, the rewne of maney well affected Subjects that stand ingaged in their fortunes in those busineses, and to the discouragment of aney to entertaine the like.

All w^{ch} is humbly referred to their more grave Consideraçons, and such Convenient resoluçon as may bee best agreeable to the p̃sent tyme, and most advantagious to his Ma^{ties} Service.

FERD. GORGES.

End: S^r ferdinando Gorges.

(Colonial

(Colonial Papers, Vol. VIII. No. 36.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS FOR
PLANTATIONS.

MAY IT PLEASE YO^R: LO^{PPS}: Whereas it pleased yo^r: LO^{PPS}: to giue me order to conferr with such as were cheifelie interested in the Plantations of New England; To resoluue whether they would resigne wholly the Patent to his Ma^{tie}, and foe leaue to his Ma^{tie} and his Counsell the sole mannadgeing of the publike affaires wth reseruatiō of euery mans right formerly graunted; Or whether they would stand to the saied Patent and prosecute the buisinesse amongst themselues. And to haue the saied Patent Renewed wth the reformation or addition of such thinges as should be found expedient.

Haveing conferred wth those that are now p^rsent and be principally interested in the buisinesse; It is humbly submitted to his Ma^{ty}s pleasure to doe therein as he pleases; But doe desire notwithstandinge that his Ma^{tie} would graunt us that gracious favour that the Patent might be confirmed wth such alterations and additions of Immunities and priuiledges as shalbe thought fitt.

And in regard there is a doubt of the losse of time before a new graunt can be obtayned, or any settlement made otherwise, It is humbly prayed that the Patent, and the Seales of the Company and also the bookes of Actes may be called for and deliuered to him whom his Ma^{tie} shalbe pleased to appointe Governor of the Plantations, that he may make use of y^e advice of such of the Counsell for those affaires as he shall thinke fitting to call unto him, for the
present

present prosecution of the buisiness till further resolution from his Ma^{tie} and yo^r Lo^{pps} may be receiued. And that the perticuler grauntes belonginge to feuerall planters may be also deliuered to them. By w^{ch} meanes they shall haue power to prosecute their perticuler affaires and there wilbe occasion and meanes to call togeather those that cannot be now had and are principall members of that Corporation, and foe be able to deliberate wth the more Circumspection what may best forte with his Ma^{ties} honor yo^r Lo^{pps} pleasures and the publicke good.

Yo^r Lo^{pps} humble Servant / FERDE: GORGES.

End: The answere of St Ferdinando Gorges to the p^osition made by the Lo^d Comi^{ss}ion^{rs} for planta^{co}ns / december 9th 1634 / New England.

(Colonial Papers, Vol. VIII. No. 52.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY WINDEBANK.

S^r I beseech yo^u to do mee the favo^r to lett their lo^{pps} knowe; That forasmuch as I perceave it is his Ma^{ties} gracious pleasure, to assigne mee Governour into New-England, that I humbly desire their lo^{pps} wilbee pleased to giue order for expedi^{co}n to bee used in repealing of the Patents of those already planted in the Bay of the Maffachusetts, that there bee not justt cause left of conten^{co}n, by reason thereof when I shall arrive in those partes.

That in the meane tyme there may bee some declara^{co}n made of his Ma^{ties} said pleasure as soone, as our grand Patent

is furrendred, whereby both my felfe, and my freinds may bee bould to make our feverall ꝑparaçons for that Service, in due Season and att beſt rates.

That Order may bee giuen that ſuch as are to tranſport anie numbers of planters into thoſe partes, may haue re- courſe unto the Governo^r assigned. To receave from him direccions where to ſettle themſelues, & howe to governe theire affaires for theire ꝑſent ꝑſitts and ſafties, and free from the Society of any turbulent Spirrits to giue them offence, or impeachment.

That till farder Order may bee had the Governour may haue Commiſſion to authorize ſome ſpetiall perſon wth the aſ- ſiſtance of others to bee joyned wth him to gouerne all thoſe wthout the limitts assigned to thoſe of the ſaid Bay, who nowe doe languiſhe for want thereof, & in diuers letters deſire that a Governour may bee ſent. And are doubtfull of the wrongs to bee offered them, from thoſe that are more powerfully armed, wth a ſhewe warranting what they ſhall attempt in that caſe.

That it may bee infered in our reſignaçon to his Ma^{ties} his gracious pleaſure to paſſe new Grants unto the Patentees, and others intereſſed in thoſe affaires of all ſuch partes, of the Teretories formerly assigned unto them, either by ſpetiall Grants lawfully obtained, or mutuall agreement on betweene themſelues, that ſoe itt may appeare to poſterity nothing was done wthout due regard of the generall right belonging to everie particuler according to his Ma^{ties} Royall goodnes in that behalfe expreſſed. And wherein none can haue juſt cauſe to complaine, and all bound to bleſſe God for ſoe Roy-
all

all respectes, and my selfe in particuler, tied to Continue to you for your noble farderance hereof, as becomes

Yo^r Honno^{rs} humble S^rvant / FERDE: GORGES.

March. 21^o 1634.

End: To the Right hon^{ble} Sir Frauncis Windebancke Principall Secretary to the Kings most Excellent Ma^{tie} p^{re}sent theis / 21: March: 1634: S^r ferdinando Gorges.

SIR F. GORGES TO WILLIAM GORGES.

GOODE NEPHEWE: I vnderstand there is some difference betweene Mr. Trelawney and Captaine Camocke⁶⁶⁶ about the boundinge of their Landes. For the better setling and satisfac^on of both parties, I haue thought it fitt hereby to praye & authorize you, with Vines and the rest of the officers belonging vnto mee for those affaires, indifferently to determine of the setlinge of their said se^uall boundes, soe as the Controversies maie receave a peaceable end betweene them. And for that I perceave that Mr. Trelawney⁶⁶⁷ is shorte of what may reasonably giue him satisfac^on and encouragement to prosecute the busines hee hath soe Long travelled in, and hath already laid a faire foundation to his greate charge, & is still resolu^ed to bee a fartherer of the publique

⁶⁶⁶ Captain Thomas Cammock, nephew of the Earl of Warwick, and one of the Piscataqua Company. He subsequently removed to Cammock's Point, now Prout's Neck, where he resided for several years. He died while on a visit to Barbadoes in 1643.

⁶⁶⁷ Robert Trelawny, son of Robert

Trelawny mentioned in a former note. He was also Mayor of Plymouth, and a member of Parliament at the breaking out of the Rebellion, and being a royalist, was expelled from Parliament, and died "a prisoner according to the sadnes of the times," in Winchester House, in 1644.

publique seruice of those Partes, that you enlarge him to-
wardes the River of Casco some two thowfand Acers more &
cause a perfect plott thereof to bee made, and annexed to
your returne of youre proceedinge, that soe I may passe vnto
him such further Graunt thereof as shall serv to his liking.
And farther, that you giue vnto the Governour of Mr. Tre-
lawnies People, Mr. John Winter,⁶⁶⁸ such authority as hath
the rest of the Justices in those my Lymitts, that thereby
hee may bee the better inabled to second and farther the
peaceable happines of what belongses vnto me. For all which
this shalbee your warrant.

And that you deliuer a Certificatt of the same to Mr.
Winter, to bee sent vnto mee. Even soe I Cõmitt you to
Gods holy protection and rest

Your uncle & assured Friend /

FERD: GORGES.

ASHTON, 11th August, 1636.

End: To my beloued Nephew, Capt. William Gorges, Gouvernour of Somersett in
New England, or in his absence to Mr. Richard Vynes, or Mr. Thomas Brad-
bury,⁶⁶⁹ or any of them, giue these.

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

SIR Hearing of some likelyhood of employ^t extraordi-
narie in hand, as well by reason of the greate Iniustice offered
to

⁶⁶⁸ John Winter, the agent of Robert Trelawny, born at Stogumber, in Somersettshire, in 1575, died at Richmond's Island, Trelawny's plantation, in 1645.

⁶⁶⁹ Thomas Bradbury, of Wicken Bonant, in Essex, where he was born

February 28th, 1610. He came to Agamenticus as an agent of Sir Ferdinando Gorges, in 1634, and subsequently removed to Massachusetts, where he filled important offices until his death, March 16th, 1695.

to his Excellencie the Prince Pallatinate, and his whole family, As also his Ma^{ties} resoluçon to continue his navall forces for the guard of the narrow Seas, I am bould to recomẽd the bearer hereof Captaine William Gorges my Nephewe to yo^r honorable fauour to bee so imployed as may fort with his reputaçon, being Sonne to my eldest brother, bredd vpp by mee in his Ma^{ties} service, and exercised in the practice of the Warr by Sea and Land, at home & abroad and was my Livetenant at Plymouth and since imployed by mee into New England, in w^{ch} navigaçon (as well as in others) hee approued himselfe both an expert marriner, and a sufficient Captaine, being such as I am bould to recomend to bee fitt to serue his Ma^{tie}; What your honno^r shalbee pleased to doe for his p̄ferment shalbee an obligaçon to make our family to endeavour the merritting thereof. By this opportunity I am humbly bould vnder your honno^{rs} favour to p̄sent vnto you my observaçon of the two last years imploy^{mt} by Sea, w^{ch} carried wth them a most provident intent, and hath purchasèd an honorable reporte, yet cold it not free the coast from the Turkish Pirates, nor the oppertunity of others Bravadoes; although it is to bee acknowledged those noble persons imployed therein did p̄forme what was in their powers, either according to the Instrucons given them, or according to the vsuall practice of our nation. But for that new mischiefes will require new remedies, and that tyme may produce worse effectes hereafter. Itt seemes not unwise vnder your honno^{rs} favour in my Judgment that such order were establisht as may both prevent the one and the other, itt being a matter easie to bee effected, and that
in

in fuch a manner, as the forces by Sea and Land fhall at all instances bee ready to fecond each other without terrour, or Confufion, fuch as Comonly followes fuddaine alarums; And my hope is that what I fay in this kind, will not bee otherwife vnderftood then I intend itt, w^{ch} is onely his Ma^{ties} fervice, without anie vaine ambition or defire of imployment, fuch as it is vfual to Men profeffing the warr, and without other meanes to live.

Befides I am growne a little doubtfull of the ftate of my owne bodie, not able to indure the Sea any long tyme: And therefore if my Service may bee accepted of, I muft humbly pray to bee left at Liberty to retire my felfe when euer I haue fetled the bufines in fuch a way as may giue his Ma^{tie} & their Lo^{pps} fatisfaccon in what I haue propounded, and vppon knowledge thereof I will bee ready to giue my attendance, and then I fhall haue the better leafure to giue an accompt to his Ma^{tie} or your honno^r of my opinion of the Carriage of the warr intended in the behalfe of the Prince Pallatinate, for it were pittey thefe bufineffes fhould mifcarry at the firft, and it is eafy to judge what wilbee the fucceffe, efpetially if it bee knowne who are the vndertakers, and what provisions are made for it, for this is a maxime amongst men of warr, That fuch as are the enterprizers fuch wilbee the fucceffe of the enterprize, the knowledg whereof makes Princes of experience themfelues be choice of thofe they imploye: vnderftanding that the Arte of warr is a miftery; heard of by maney, prafticed by fome; vnderftood by fewe; I fay noe more referring to your wifdome to Judge of the reft, and to vouchsafe mee
the

the favour to acknowledge mee as one that desires to be esteemed.

Yo^r honno^{rs} humbly to serue you / FERD : GORGES.

LAUINGTON. 27^o ffebruary. 1636.

Add: To the hon^{ble} Sir John Coke Knight Principall Secretarie to the Kinges
most Excellent Ma^{tie} at Court present thefe. End: by Sir J. Coke. 1636
Feb 27. Sir Ferdinando Gorges frō lauington.

(Coke MSS.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR JOHN COKE.

SIR Att the meeting of the Justices this last Seffions the inequality of the Rates of the feuall hundreds for all payments were Complayned of, w^h desire of speedy reformation, that for his Ma^{ties} Seruice (for all Leavies) might with more ease bee borne, and the Complaints of the poorer sort bee taken away. And although it were respectiue imbraced by all in a manner that were p^{re}sent, yet some two or three questioned the same, as Conceauing it not fitt, nor in the power of the Seffions to alter the former Orders fetled, although those orders were alluaies fetled & resolved by the same power; But finding those disputes likely to last longer then it ought, I haue thought it a principall part of my dutie to comend the same to yo^r Considera^{con}, for that I find it of noe small consequence, and doe wish that for the more speedy dispatch thereof his Ma^{tie} might bee moved, to giue order that Letters may be directed to the Lieutenantes, and Justices to the same purpose, or that such other
course

courſe may bee taken therein as to their Lo^{pps} wiſdomes ſhall bee found beſt for the publique ſervice, and his Ma^{ties} greates occasions. Soe Leaving the farther Conſidera^{tion} thereof to yo^r wiſdome, I humbly take my Leave and reſt

Yo^r honno^{rs} humbly to ſerve you / FERD: GORGES.

LAUINGTON 29^o Aprillis. 1637.

Add: To the Right hon^{ble} Sir John Coke knight, principall Secretary to his moſt Excellent Ma^{tie} preſent theſe. End: by Sir J. Coke. 1637 April 29. S^r Ferdin: Gorges.

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR HENRY VANE, JOHN WINTHROP,
AND OTHERS.

MAIE IT PLEASE YOU, Having received ſeverall lettres from my ſervant Vines, and others, of the generall diſlike conceived againſt Mr. Cleeves, for having to doe with anie my affaires, by reaſon (as it is affirmed) of the miſcarriage of him, as well towards myſelfe in particular, as the wronges hee offered them by his miſreports to mee of their miſcarriage in their places, whereby hee hath intruded himſelfe into my good opinion ſoe far forth as to bee joyned with you in matters of ſoe greates truſt, being ſoe unworthey; which complaint of theirs hath ſo far forth prevailed with mee (if it bee ſoe) as to deſire your favourable excuſe; and to give my order to my ſervant Vines for the righting of mee, and vindicating of himſelfe, and the reſt, taking an ordinary courſe for the farther queſtioning thereof, and to proceed therein according as it ſhalbee found of more or leſſe conſequence, which I refer vnto your judgments (to whome hee is to adreſſe himſelfe for juſtice) to cenſure as to you it ſhall

shall seeme good, vppon a full hearing, and due prooffe made thereof. As for Vines, I know his honesty to bee such as I could not abandon him out of my affeccion, as formerly I haue written, yet I conceived it not amisse to rancke him with the rest in the generall discharge, that it might appeare there was noe partiallity vsed, nor respecte of persons, for therein I spared not my nephewe, whome I esteeme next my owne children.

As for Vines, I intend hee shall still continue Deputie Governour, and soe doe pray you to settle him as before hee was, and to joyne with him my nephewe Champernowne,⁶⁸¹ and such others as you shall receave notice to bee fittest for such service; that thereby you maie avoid the troubles you may otherwise bee put vnto, by the maney trobbles that maie arise soe farr distant from you. What resteth more to bee done in this, I refer to your best resolucions, as tyme and occasion serves, wherein I feare I haue too much trenched vppon your favours. But my trust is, as shall bee my endeavours, that I maie attaine to the oppertunity to make you some kind of requittall, and that in some nature to your good likinges. In the meane while let mee tell you that being at London this last Terme, and daiely in Company with the Lordes, I heard nothing of the Commission Cleeves assured mee was afoote, contrary to the expectation I had thereof,

⁶⁷⁰ Francis Champernoun, or perhaps more correctly, Champernowne, was of a distinguished Devonshire family, and cousin to Sir Ferdinando Gorges, to whom he was a stanch friend and adherent through the troublous times which preceded the loss to the Lord Proprietor of his Province of Maine.

He died at Kittery in 1687. For an extended account of him *vide Captain Francis Champernowne*, by Charles Wesley Tuttle, Esq., Ph.D. Edited by Albert Harrison Hoyt, A.M., with a Memoir of the Author, by John Ward Dean, A.M. Boston, 1889.

thereof, vppon confidence of Mr. Cleeves reporte to mee. By which meanes I was (I fear mee drawne to abuse you vnwillingly) by my certificate in his behalfe. But a little to excuse him therein, for that it might bee he was foe perswaded vppon such promises as Moorton his agent assured him, who since is wholly casheered from intermedlinge with anie our affaires hereafter; but this I write to you in particular that you maie take private notice thereof, and howe much I am offended with my selfe for being over credulous of another, neither needes it seeme strang it should bee foe, consideration being had to the sincerity of one, and the fraude of others. But I will forbear to say more in this subiecte, and onely leave all to tyme and oppertunity, desiring the assistance of the Most Highest to give me power to doe what shall make most for his glorie, and the publique good of his Church, to whose sacred proteccion I committ you, with the assurance that I will approve my selfe.

Your true friend, to serve you / FERDE: GORGES.

ASHTON PHILLIPPES, 23^o Augustij, 1637.

Add: To my much respected freindes Henry Vane,⁶⁷¹ John Winthrop, John Haines,⁶⁷² John Humfrey, and John Dudley, Esquiers, give theis with speed. Endorsed by Gov. Winthrop "Sr: ffer: Gorge." (Colonial

⁶⁷¹ Sir Henry Vane was a leader of the Independents, and a man of ideas far in advance of his time. On the restoration of the House of Stuart, every man in any degree instrumental in the death of Charles I. was marked for the scaffold, and Vane was one of these unfortunate victims. He was beheaded June 14th, 1662.

⁶⁷² The Rev. John Haynes came to this country with Cotton and others, arriving in Boston September 4th, 1633. He was chosen Governor of the colony in 1635. Cotton Mather, quoting from

an old manuscript, says: "To him is New England many ways beholden; had he done no more but stilled a storm of dissention which broke forth in the beginning of his government, he had done enough to endear our hearts unto him, and account that day happy when he took the reins of government into his hands." He removed to Connecticut, where he "took his turn with Mr. Edward Hopkins in being every other year the governor of that colony." He died in 1654.

(Colonial State Papers, Vol. X. No. 18.)

ANSWER TO ORDER OF REFERENCE RESPECTING CLAIMS
AGAINST SIR F. GORGES.

ACCORDING to yo^r Lo^{pps} Order of Reference of the 22th February 1638. directing us to examine & certefie whe[ther] the Promise of S^r Ferdinando Gorges to be an [adventurer] in equall propor^{con} wth Cap^t John Mafon, (whe[rein] he) is charg'd wth the Arreare complained of to be [due] from him) did only relate to fuch Shipps as fhould [be] fett out & voyages made after his faid Promise, [to] date in June 1632. or to the Shipps fett out [and] mentioned in the chertificate of S^r John W[oftenholme]⁶⁷³ & S^r Abraham Dawes,⁶⁷⁴ w^{ch} were before the date of faid promise; or to both; Wee haue examined the fame [and] fully heard the faid S^r Ferd: Gorges in whatfoeũ [he] could alleadge for him felfe, & doe finde that h[is afore]faid promise made in June 1632. as aforefaid, ha[d] Relation to the Shipps fett out & voyages mentioned in the faid Certificate of S^r John Wolstenholme & [S^r] Abraham Dawes w^{ch} were before the date of his faid Prom[ise] And it appear'd clearly unto us that the Objection made by the faid S^r Ferd: Gorges that his faid Promise

⁶⁷³ Sir John Wostenholm was a wealthy merchant of London, and a member of the Virginia Company, his name appearing in the second charter of 1609. He identified himself in the Virginia enterprife, and was honored by having a town in the New World named for him, viz., "Wosten-Holmes Towne." He received the honor of knighthood on March 12th, 1616, and was subfequently

appointed to the office of a Farmer of the Customs, and in 1631 was made one of the Board of Commissioners for Virginia and the Caribbees. He manifested his zeal for religion by building a church at Stanmore, in Middlesex, where he was buried in 1639.

⁶⁷⁴ He was affociate Commissioner for Virginia with Sir John Wostenholm.

Promise related only & was to be applied to such Shippes as were sett out & voyages made after his said Promise, was a meere sub[ter]fuge & altogether groundlesse, for that after his fai[d] promise made he paid in 100^{li} w^{ch} must necessarily [be] in relation to the Voyages & Shippes sett out before his said promise, in regard that since the date of his said Promise there hath not beene any Shipp sett out nor voyage at all made by the said Adventurers; Be[sides] it appear'd unto us, as well by the Register Booke [and by] M^r Eyres Clarke & Accountant for the said Comp[any] as by the Testimonies upon oath as well of the said M^r Ey[re]s as of George Griffith⁶⁷⁵ & Thomas Wannerton m^{ch}[ts] that the said S^r Ferd: Gorges did promise as af[ore]said to be an Adventurer in all the Voyages sett [out by] the said Adventurers, in equall proporcion wth th[e said] Mason; As concerning the some of 254^{li} c[laimed] to be owing & in Arreare by the said S^r Ferdin[ando] (w^{ch} was ordered to goe towards the satisfaction [of] the wages & salaries due to the poore petitioner^s, [the only] Proofs thereof is the f^d Register Booke of Accounts [produced] by the said Eyres, attested by him upon oath to be a true Acc^t Upon all w^{ch} wee are of opinion that the said S^r Ferd: Gorges was in Arreare the said Summe of 254^{li}. (Whereof 10^{li} only hath beene by him paid, since the first

⁶⁷⁵ George Griffith was a merchant of London, and was associated with Sir William Alexander and others in the Canada expedition which set out November 6th, 1629, under the command of Kirke. Subsequently he was one of the associates in the Laconia Company, and was assigned a considerable tract of land in the territory which the Company held from the Council for New England.

He was the owner of the barque *Warwick*, and was interested in the commercial adventures which for some time were carried on with the New England settlements. Various references to him may be found in *Captain John Mason*, edited by John Ward Dean, A.M., Prince Society, Boston, 1887, pp. 54, 56, 64 *et passim*.

first Comp^{lt} of the Petiçon^{rs} to this Board.) Neūtheleſſe in regard S^r Ferd: Gorges did object one pticular, whereby he endeauoured to diſable the Teſtimony of the ſaid Eyres, & the Credite of his Register booke; Wee haue at his Inſtance thought fitt to repreſent the ſame to yo^r Lo^{pps} viz^t That in a Cauſe lately depending in the Court of Requeſts betweene one Cotton Plaintiffe, & S^r Ferd: Gorges & Henry Gardiner⁶⁷⁶ defend^{ts}, concerning the Somē adventured by S^r Ferd: Gorges in a Fiſhing Voyage to New England; The queſtion being? Whether his Adventure were 110^{li} or 50^{li}. It was (notwthſtanding the Anſwer of the ſaid Eyres upon oath to an Interogatory miniſtered on that behalfe, wherein he affirm'd that the Adventure of the ſaid S^r Ferd: Gorges was 110^{li}.) Refolu'd by the ſaid Court that the ſaid Adventure was only 50^{li}. & ſoe order'd accordingly; a Copie of w^{ch} Depoſiçon & Order he now produc'd before us; W^{ch} whether it may tend to the impeachm^t of the Teſtimony of the ſaid Eyres or the Credite of his Register Booke of Accounts in the matters referr'd by yo^r Lo^{pps} to us wee preſume not to judge, but humbly ſubmit the ſame to yo^r Lo^{pps}, Only wee conceaue it fitt to acquainte yo^r Lo^{pps} likewise wth M^r Eyres his Anſwer thereunto; w^{ch} was, That the Court of Requeſts did not reject his Teſtimony there, in ſuch a ſence, as S^r Ferd:

⁶⁷⁶ Henry Gardiner was at an early period intereſted in colonial undertakings in the New World, if we may believe his ſon, who ſays that he “was one of the Firſt Adventurers thither, and into other parts of America.” He was a merchant, and was aſſociated with Captain John Maſon, “having lived long in the Oriental parts of the World,

almost as much Eaſtwards, as New England is Weſtwards.” His colonial undertakings, however, ended diſaſtrouſly, in common with thoſe of his aſſociates. For particulars regarding him, *vide New England's Vindication*, edited by Charles Edward Banks, M.D., Gorges Society, Portland, 1884.

Ferd: Gorges now urges & would make use of, to disabie his Testimony in other thinges, But that although the said order of Court, determin'd it otherwise then as he had depofed, yet the fame was but according to the Courfe of all Courts, in regard there was but fingularis Testis; And therefore humbly desired that in Cafe the said objection of S^r Ferd: Gorges made any impreffion wth yo^r Lo^{pps} that he might be heard to giue further Answer thereunto.

ABRA: WILLIAMS.⁶⁷⁷

WILL: BECHER.⁶⁷⁸

FRANCIS WYATT.⁶⁷⁹

LAUR: WHITTAKER.⁶⁸⁰

THO: MEAUTYS.⁶⁸¹

End: S^r Ferd: Gorges.

(Colonial

⁶⁷⁷ Sir Abraham Williams was Secretary to Sir Ralph Winwood, Ambassador in Holland, who left him at the Hague in August, 1613, in charge of important business of state. He was the agent of the Elector and Electress Palatine, afterwards King and Queen of Bohemia, and was knighted at Whitehall by the King, April 22d, 1625, "after his happie comeinge to the Crowne." He was Clerk of the Signet in 1636.

⁶⁷⁸ William Beecher was Clerk of the Privy Council. He was made Sir William on July 29th, 1619.

⁶⁷⁹ Sir Francis Wyatt, elected Governor of Virginia by the Virginia Company of London, January 31, 1620, was descended from a noted family whose estates had been confiscated in the sixteenth century, but which had subsequently been restored to them. With his wife Margaret, the amiable daughter of Sir Samuel Sandys, and a considerable retinue of servants, he arrived at

Jamestown in the ship *George*, in October, 1621. The next year after the death of his father, which took place in 1625, he returned to England in order to settle his estate. In 1639 he was again elected Governor of Virginia, but did not long retain the office, in which he was succeeded by Governor Berkeley. Shortly after resigning the governorship he returned to his home in Bexley, Kent, where he died, August 24th, 1644.

⁶⁸⁰ Laurence Whitaker was a member of Parliament in 1640. Subsequently he was one of those who signed the protestation at the trial of the unfortunate Earl of Strafford.

⁶⁸¹ Thomas Meautys was the Clerk of the Privy Council, and for his faithful service to the Crown was rewarded, on March 26th, 1636, by having bestowed upon him for life the office of Muster Master-General of England.

(Colonial Papers, Vol. IX. No. 116.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SECRETARY WINDEBANK.

S^R: I shall not neede to use manie reasons to yo^r: Hono^r: to prove the consequence of mainteininge & supportinge forreigne plantacons; in that, yo^r: hono^r: knowes, by those meanes manie famous Co^monwealths have bine raised, manie countries establisht to the discovero^{rs}; & without it noe assurance of greate Territories can be had Soe did the Romans in Germanie, such hath bine the practise of the Spaniard of later yeares, and such are the designses of the French and Dutch at this p^rsent; well knoweing, that nothinge adds more glorie and greatnesse to anie nation, then the enlargement of their Territories the multiplyinge of their subjects, & the increase of Trade and Co^mmerce; which alwaies bringes wth it encrease of shippinge and mariners; matters, this kingdome of all others hath most reason to be carefull of, in that, our safetie doth much consist therein. To omitt the miseries that follow the mightie warres devastations and spoiles dailie practised, for the conqueringe of places, and securitie of principalities; w^{ch} these forreigne plantations may performe without bloud or charge to the Publique.

But perhaps it may be objected, that manie of our planters have undertaken these designs rather out of seditious, phantasticall and schismaticall humo^{rs}: then out of zeale to the hono^r: of God or service to his Ma^{tie}:

Whereunto I humbly aunswere; that if it be soe, yet the hono^r:,

hono^r: , his Mātie is like to receive thereby, can be noe lesse then is due to foe greate a prince posselt of such Territories. As for their schismaticall humo^rs, seldome doth anie prince abandon people or leave the possession of kingdomes for those causes; but rather seeks to winne them with the largest conditions of all favour and freedome.

That in case (which God forbid) his Mātie should abandon these designs can there be anie doubt made but that they will endeavo^r to subsiste of themselves, or adhere to such other states as shall be willinge to entertaine them and (in case of necessitie) administer to them all supplies requisite for the reliefe of their distresses; were it but to p^rvent the manifeste groweing of his Māties greatnesse by foe visible a meanes as his forreigne plantations promise to all; whose growth to foe greate perfection in foe shorte a time may well be admired.

And it may be supposed, that the multitudes of people goeing from hence & transportinge corne & other provisions with them raise the prizes of them here.

To this I aunswere that (were they altogether furnished from hence) their sustenance consistes in a like proportion at home as abroad but, the poorer sorte goe alwaies provided onelie for the time of their transporta^{co}n, hopeinge, by their labo^rs there, to gaine at easier rates their victualls; whose comeinge unprovided of meanes hath in times of more want bine occasion of much miserie.

Next it may be inquired, what co^mmodities come from thence for the present to his Mātie /

To which it is answered; that, lookeinge into the number of shippes which are everie yeare employed that waie, it will easilie

easlie appeare what they returne to his M^{tie} both by exportation & importation: and if in foe few yeares & hindred by foe manie wants foe greate profitt be returned; what will those profitts be when those plantations be growne to more mature perfection; and when they shall be able upon the receipte of English comodities, in like manner, to refurnish the merchaunts, with Flaxe, hempe, pitch, tarre, rosin, & dele (naturall comodities of those parts) as they haue alreadie, with great quantities of fish, masts, pipestaves, & Clapboard, sent into Spaine & the Islands of Canaræ and Medera for which there are returned comodities yieldinge Good custome And noe doubt but there are other profitts to be raised when once the planters shall have strength & meanes to search for them; which their owne benefitt and necessitie will enforce them unto. How manie hopes depend on these plantaçons besides, is knowne, to those of experience and judgment in state-affaires; which were the motives inducinge Queene Eliz: and his late M^{tie} of blessed memorie foe willingly to favo^r such enterprizes: But as in all other works of moment, foe in this, the happinesse consisteth in a constant continuation of the well manageinge thereof till it be brought to its height of pfection.

Yet I conceive the greatest question, to be, by what meanes those refractorie people may be drawne to submitte themselves to a generall governo^r., whereby his Matie may the better be assured of their perpetuall continuance in obedience to him and his Successors.

Whereunto (presumeinge on yo^r: Hono^{rs} fauo^r:) I aunswere; that if the lords, to whom the severall provinces are assigned, would be pleased, (accordinge to their former resolutions,)

to settle theire deputies and officers with some power, it would be much the better be accomplished: But for the present I humbly tender to your hono^{rs} considera^{tion} how expedient it will be to directe a Co^mmission to the proprieto^r of some one province (not yet pesterd with such people as are like to refuse any authoritie sent from hence to co^mmand them :) wherein may be joined, some that shall accompanie him in the imployment, and others, of the most discrete and temperate sorte resident in New-Englande: givinge them power to examine the state of the Countrey, & to inquire by what meanes it may best be ordered for the quiett peace and content of the planters that shall live under his Ma^{ties} obedience.

By the same meanes may a generall Co^mmission be sent for the settlinge of a Governo^r: wth other Officers of State; but with instructions, not to divulge or putt the same in execution untill he find some certaintie of willingnesse in the strongest partie to second the authoritie thereof.

Which Co^mmission must be soe ample & free for the grauntinge of all reasonable im^munities to that kind of people, as that, they may be putt out of all feare of looseinge what they in present possesse. (it beinge conceived, consideration beinge had to the premisses, better any condi^{tion} graunted then that land and people should be losse.

This course beinge taken; yet the effectinge thereof will not be without extraordinarie charge and difficultie to the person to be imployed therein; & soe much the more, in that, manie of those formerly resolved to runne the fortune of such an undertaker are now fallen of, & have otherwise disposed of themselves out of despaire of the worke; seeinge
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the number & strength of that people soe much increased. Therefore his M^atie may be pleased to make such an allowance unto him for the transportacon of himselfe & the rest of the Commissioners with their retinue, as may be competent; and it will be all the charge his M^atie needes to be at for the performance of the service; for if they will accepte of a governour there will be meanes found for the maintenance of him, & future defrayment of all publique charge; in that, they doe already of themselves raise stocks to the like ends; & with favour and authoritie from his Matie they will doe much more: how necessarilie such favo^r: should be bestowed on them may be conceived by that little which hath bine said.

Thus much I thought good humbly to p^rsent to yo^r: hono^{rs}: considera^{tion} that you may please to make use thereof to the lords (in my behalfe) as your hono^r: in your wisdom shall thinke fitt, for his M^aties better service: my selfe beinge unable to give that attendance as I in duty ought. Humbly desireinge, that by yo^r: hono^{rs}: meanes I may speedily receive knowledge of their lordships commaunds, & returne to mine owne house with hope the sooner to recover my health. So shall I rest

Yo^r: Hono^{rs}: most humbly to be commaunded /

FERDE: GORGES.

End : 20 Iune : 1638 / S^t. Ferdinando Gorges. Trade.

(Colonial

(Colonial Papers, Vol. X. No. 56.)

PETITION OF SIR F. GORGES TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

To the right hono^{ble}: the lords of his Matie's most hono^{ble}
privie Counsell.

The humble petiçon of S^r Ferde: Gorges Kn^t
Shewinge /

That, Whereas the necessitie of his particular affaires in New-England requires that he should speedilie send over thither, for the better settlinge of his estate, and reformation of the disorders amongst them; as alsoe, for that there are many tenants, undertakers and inhabitants (beinge persons obedient and conformable to the orders of this church) that are to goe thither; who, by reason of a proclamaçon for a generall restraint of any to goe without licence, are now stayed to the greate daunger of the ruine of them and their families; in consideraçon hereof, it is humbly desired, that your Lo^{pps} will be pleased to give him leave to sett forth from Bristoll (where he dwells) such shippinge as shall be necessarie for his and his private friends uses that shall be willinge to joine with him for the better plantinge and orderinge those parts belonging unto him:

And he shall dailie pray &c:

FERDE: GORGES.

Nihil /

(Colonial

(Colonial Papers, Vol. X. No. 93.)

PETITION OF SIR F. GORGES TO THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN PLANTATIONS.

To the Right Hoⁿble the Lords Com^{rs} for forraigne Planta^çons.

The humble declara^çon of S^r Fardinando Gorges k^t

MAY IT PLEASE YO^R LO^{PPS} / Haucinge faithfully endeavoured for many Yeares togeather, (to the expence both of my time & fortunes) by what meanes I might best serve his Ma^{tie} and Conceaveinge theare could bee nothinge more advantagious to his Honour, and happines of his People, then the enlargem^t of his Dominions, the encrease of trade, and the advancem^t of Navega^çon, I perswaded my selfe it could noe way bee better accomplished then by Planta^çon; Wheruppon I was one of the first that sett theis employm^{ts} a foote, and haue fedulously entended the Care therof to this Very p^rsent, wth confidence of a gracious accepta^çon from his Ma^{tie} for my zeale therin, w^{ch} to my great encouragm^t I haue alwaies found in a plentiful measure, But now findinge age to haue oⁿtaken mee, Soe that I cannott follicitt your LO^{PPS} wth that diligence that becomes mee I most humbly desire that this my Nephew Luttrell⁶⁸³ may bee instead of mee to attend yo^r LO^{PPS} Resolu^çons touchinge a Peti^çon p^rsent^d by my selfe about the end of June last to his Ma^{tie} at Greenw^{ch} and by him Reco^mended to Yo^r LO^{PPS} for

⁶⁸³ This is probably Thomas Luttrell, Esq., of Dunster, whose wife was the daughter of Sir Francis Popham. He died in 1647. Dunster Castle is still the property of the Luttrells.

for a dispatch therof, And that it would please yo^r good Lo^{pps} to call for M^r Attorney geⁿall: with whome the bu^sines Remaynes, And that the Councell assigned to attend yo^r Lo^{pps} therin may enforme yo^r Lo^{pps} of the state therof, that soe it may haue a dispatch accordinge to the order yo^r Lo^{pps} shalbee pleased to give.

FERD: GORGES.

End: S^r ferdinando Gorges.

(Colonial State Papers, Vol. X. No. 55.)

SIR F. GORGES TO SIR F. WINDEBANK.

S^r hauinge receaued l^res out of New England I perceauē had I not obteyned the graunte I lately gott from his Ma^{ty}. I should not haue beene M^r of more then I ocupied wth my fervants, and those entrusted by me in that parte my house standes in (the rest beinge challenged som by one right som by another) and som of those flyeing to the Governo^rs of the Bay for Authority to order their affayers (as if they alone were the supreamē lordes of that parte of the worlde) and therefore howe I shall speed in my Resolu^con to make good his Ma^{ts} Royall graunte, God that onely Governes all actions knowes: But hauinge his Ma^{ts} gracious favo^r there is noethinge shall deter me from my Attempt to make his power availeable where I haue his Warrant to doe it, besides all this I heare there wilbe great workeinge by som of their Agents and freinds to stay me from profecutinge my intents suspectinge (as it seemes) that his Ma^{ty} may make use of me in tyme to Regulate what is found to be amisse as fortinge wth his hono^r and Wisdome to satisfie those that hopes and
prayer

prayer for it, as alsoe for that it is known to all to be a principle of state not to loose what may be kept that may any wayes prove advantageous in future tymes for profitt or service, and for the p̄sent of noe meane Employment for Shippes and subjects that wantes or makes use of it. This much I thought fitt in discharge of my duety to comend to yo^u hono^{rs} further consideraçon howe necessary it is his Ma^{ty} and their Lo^{ps} should haue knowledge hereof, to the end there may be som tymely course taken to p̄vent the worst that may be looked for here after, Although I haue a purpose my selfe not to take shippinge before I humbly p̄sent my selfe to his Ma^{ty} and their Lo^{ps} to receaue their comaunds and to putt soemuch thereof in Execuçon as lyes in the power of an humble servant and faithfull subject to doe, that covetts noethinge more in this worlde then the hono^r of his Sovereigne and prosperity of his Nation, Wittnes all my actions in the whole course of my life to this p̄sent/ Not further to trouble yo^r hono^r but that I will ever acknowledge my selfe

Yo^r hono^{rs} humble servant to be comaunded /

FERD : GORGES.

ASHTON this 28th of January 1639.

End: To the Right hono^{ble} S^r. Frauncis Windebanke knight Principall Secretary to his most Excellent Ma^{ty} p̄sent these / 28. Janu: 1639. S^r. Ferd : Gorges.

SIR F. GORGES TO JOHN WINTHROP.

WORTHY SIR, — The suddain approach of our longe wished for Parliament inuites me to attend the happy issue therof, that otherwise had a resolution to haue visited you
this

this fpringe, but I haue fent a neer kinsman of mine own name, with other neceffary feruants, for the better ordering of my affaires, & makinge of my prouifion agaynst the time it fhall pleafe God I come my felfe. In the mean while I am bould to intreat of you to fecond this my cofen Gorges in any iuft and reasonable occafion he fhall haue caufe to vfe your fauor in, I hauinge giuen him command to be carefull to doe his beft that all fayr correfpondency be maintayned between thofe two feuerall Plantations, as a fpeciall means, by Gods fauor, to giue furtherance to the happineffe therof; and when God fhall be pleased that I may arriue, I doubt not but you fhall perceauie my greateft ambition fhall tend (next to the feruice of God) by what wayes or means an vnion or conformity of all parties may be eftablifhed, or at the leaft a patient or charitable bearinge with each others errors or felfe affexions, that foe our Soueraigne Lord the Kinge may be afhewred of our fubiections, the publique be not difturbed, the common courfe of iuftice made free, and the countries defenses prouided for; which worke beinge finifhed, I fhall willingly commend my felfe ready to giue an account of all my actions to Him that is only able to forgiue all our offenses, and giues vs afhewrances of His mercies through the fufferances of His bleffed Son, our only Sauour Iefus Chrift, to whole facred & gracious affiftance I commend you and all your endeouours, and to whom I wifh as becommeth

Your very louinge frend /

FERDE: GORGES.

ASHTON, March 26, 1640.

Add : To the Worfhipfull & my much refpected frend, John Wintrupp, Efqr, at Boston in the Bay, thefe prefent. End: by Gov. Winthrop: Sir Fferdinand Gorges, Refp. per the Defire.

(Add.

(Add. MSS. 18,980, fol. 98.)

SIR F. GORGES TO THE KING.

S^R. The troopes beinge dispatched to the West it is conceived their proceedings in theose parts will give a faire opportunitie to your Highnesse to profecute the designe foe longe aimed at, in that all the forces the enemy can possibly procure wil be drawne to make head against them, Least they loose the domination of theose countries by which they are nowe supported.

With what facilitie it may be effected if your Highnesse can advance but 3000 foote & 2000 horse to the accomplishments of the service wil be made manifest uppon the examination of the plott thereof with the waies & passages belonging unto it which I have brought of purpose to give your Highnesse a full satisfaction of everie particular, that foe you may proceede with the more assurance and the plainer give order what everie one is to doe & how to behave himselfe in the execution thereof whereby the distractions may be the better avoided which manie times attende such designs & will the better Confirme the mindes of the assailants whoe shall see beforehande what they are to observe and be attended with sufficient guides to bringe them to their severall places they are assigned with order to proceede accordinge to your Highnesse's directions.

That the Governour hath enlarged his defences of late is certaine & therewith made himselfe lesse able to make good the guardes foe farre distant from him, and to assure other places foe easie to come by without danger of what is done

to prevent it Howe much such a piece of service will advance the publique, distracte the enemie & glorifie you for your celeritie & wifdome in layeing holde of such an occasion that opens the passage to finish the troubles of theose distressed countries, & advances the meanes to ende our generall miseries. I leave till the worke be finished as I doe the whole to your Highnesses better consideration & knowledge of what may be proper for the present, with relation to other the Kings necessities, or spectiall occasions, even soe commendeinge your Highnesse to Gods sacred protection restinge in all dutifull obedience

Your Highnesses humblie to serve you /

FERDE : GORGE.

End : F. Gorge. 43 or 44.

(Add. MSS., British Museum, 15,857, fol. 257.)

SIR F. GORGES TO FERDINAND, LORD FAIRFAX.

MY NOBLE LORD. I was very ioyful to heare by S^r John Paulett of your Lor^{ps} health and well beinge specially that you were pleased to call to memory our ancient acquaintance with your Noble desire to afford me your comfort in these my untimely sufferances whose affections as you may please to beleieve neuer swayd me farther then became an obedient servante only careful of my Countries happines and yet fearfull to side with either party as not able to judge of soe transcendent a differance, but sorrowing in the highest degree to finde such a separation threateneinge soe much the rewen of all which God I hope hath timely prevented by guidinge
his

his Ma^{tie} to the happie aduice of his greatest Councells whose wifdomes (under God) is only able to reestablifh fome part of the happines we once enioyed which God in mercie grante that I may have the happinefs to attend your Lor^{ps} folety to give you accounte how I have paff my time in thefe fadd feafons and to tell that there is nothinge in my power that is not your Lor^{ps} to difpofe of, in that I am not only a debtor to your Lor^p for your care to be helpfull to me but to your thrice Honrd fonne for his ready acceptation of my fubmiffion and favourable care I fhould receive noe wronge while he ftayed in thefe partes and (as I have hearde) his well takeinge, what hath fince bin offered me thefe are the cordes that ties me to affure your Lor^{ps} I fhall ever be

My Lorde. Your Lor^{ps} humble fervant /

FE: GORGES.

ASHTON Iune the 1st 1646.

Add: To the Right Honourable my much Honoured Lord the Lord Fairfax ⁶⁸⁴
thefe prefente. End: S^r Fer: Gorge 1 June 1646.

⁶⁸⁴ Ferdinand, Lord Fairfax, was a general of the Parliamentary army, and in the battle of Selby, April 11th, 1644, completely overthrew the Royalists, for which a general thanksgiving was ordered by Parliament. He was made Governor of York and the Northern Counties after the victory, and died while holding this office, March 13th, 1647.





COMMISSION OF FERDINANDO GORGES TO
FRANCIS CHAMPERNOUN, HENRY
JOSSELYN, ET ALS.

JUNE 21ST, 1664.



COMMISSION OF FERDINANDO GORGES TO
FRANCIS CHAMPERNOUN, HENRY
JOSSELYN, ET ALS.

JUNE 21ST, 1664.

(York Records.)



O all Christian People to whom these Presents shall come I Ferdinando Gorges of the City of Westm^r. Lord Proprietor of the Province of Mayne in New England in America send Greeting. Whereas our late Sovereign King Charles the First of blessed memory by his Charter Royall under the Great Seal of England bearing Date the Third Day of Aprill in the Fifteenth Year of his Reign did grant & confirme unto S^r Ferdinando Gorges Knight Dec^d & unto his Heirs & Assigns for ever all that Part & Portion of Land in New England in America which by the f^d Letters Patents is bounded by the Rivers of Pascataway & Sagadahok the f^d Rivers being included with the Extent of One Hundred and Twenty Miles up into the Main Land with severall Islands adjacent to the f^d main Land & the Rivers & Shores thereof

as

as also the Islands of Capawick & Nautican near Cape Codd w^{ch} Island of Capawick is since called Martins Vineyard all w^{ch} Premiffes are by the f^d. Charter Royall entituled the Province of Mayne in New England in America, and by ye fame Charters are not only granted the Fee of the f^d. Lands to the f^d. S^r. Ferdinando Gorges his Heirs & affigns for ever, But also the perpetuall Government thereof faving only the Faith & Allegiance to the Crowne of England by w^{ch} Charter is also granted to the f^d. S^r. Ferdinando Gorges, all the Powers, Rights, Franchiffes, Immunities, Royalties & Priviledges w^{ch} of Right apperteyne & are enjoyed or ought to be enjoyed by the Bishop of Duresme in the County Palatine of Duresme: with severall other Royalties Priviledges & Immunities in fuch large & ample Manner as gave Testimony of a fingular Favour in his f^d. Majestie to the f^d. S^r. Ferdinando Gorges as by the f^d. Charter Respect being thereunto had may & doth at Large appear.

And whereas upon the Deceafe of the f^d. S^r. Ferdinando Gorges the Right, Tytle & Interest of the f^d. Province did lawfully descend & come unto John Gorges Esq^r. Eldest Sonne & Heire of the f^d. S^r. Ferdinando Gorges. And whereas upon the Deceafe of the f^d. John Gorges the Right Title & Interest to the f^d. Province did lawfully descend and come unto me the f^d. Ferdinando Gorges only Son & Heire of the f^d. John Gorges. Now Know yee that I the f^d. Ferdinando Gorges repofing Truft & Confidence in my loving Friends Capt. Francis Champernoon neer Braboat Harbour, Henry Jofflin of Black Point, John Archdale, Robert Jordan of Spurwinck, Thomas Purchas of Pegipscott, Francis Neale of Cafco Bay, Francis Hooke of Saco, Henry Watts of Blew Point,

Point, Edward Rishworth of Gorgiana, Joseph Bowles of Wells, Francis Raynes near Braboad Harbour, Robert Cutts of Kittery & Thomas Withers of Pascataway Gentlement all Inhabitants & Residents within the f^d. Province have constituted & appointed & by these Presents do constitute & appoint them the f^d. Capt. Fran. Champernoon Hen. Josslin John Archedale Robt. Jordan Tho. Purchas Fran. Neale Francis Hooke Hen. Watts Edw. Rishworth Jos. Bowles Fran. Raynes Robt. Cutts & Tho. Withers to be during my Will & Pleasure my Deputies & Commissioners for the Government of the f^d. Province hereby empowering them or the maj^r. Part of them, or the Major Part of the Survivors of them to do & execute all such Authorities & Powers as by ye f^d. Letters Patents are to be done & executed by my Lieutenant or Lieutenants Deputie or Deputies.

Provided that in all such their Actings they proceed according to the Charter aforementioned, & the Instructions herewith sent & by me signed & sealed & according to such further Instructions as they shall from Time to Time receive from me, hereby ratifying & confirming all w^{ch} shall be lawfully done by my f^d. Deputies or Commissioners in Pursuance of this my Authoritie. Provided alwaies & my Intent & Meaning is that as soon as any other Commission being hereafter signed & sealed by me my Heirs or Assignes shall arrive & be publicly declared in the said Province that then this Commission shall cease & be noe further acted upon.

But all the Authoritie herein granted to cease & the supream Authoritie & Government of the f^d. Province under me to devolve upon such Persons as shall by such new Commission be thereunto appointed.

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Given under my Seal this One & Twentieth Day of June in ye Sixteenth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord Charles the Second by the Grace of God King of England, Scotland France & Ireland Defender of the Faith &c Annoq Dom. 1664

Instructions appointed by me Ferdinando Gorges Lord Proprietor of the Province of Mayne in New England in America to be observed by the Deputies or Commissioners who by a Commission bearing Date with these Presents are by me appointed & commissioned to mannage the Affairs of the f^d Province.

Imprimis you are to publish his Majesties gracious Order herewith sent & also the Proclamation herewith by me sent which is to be done in the severall most publick Parts of the f^d Province & to give Notice to the Inhabitants thereof that as they will answer the Contrary at their utmost perills, they do henceforth forbear to obey any Order from any Persons pretending a Right to govern the f^d Province or any Part thereof, but that they do in all things submit themselves to be governed by you as my Lieutenants & Deputies.

2. You are to use your Endeavours that untill Laws can be made & established for ye Governm^t. of the f^d Province the Lawes & Customes formerly used in the f^d Province before the late Civil Warres of England be again observed & put in Practice soe as they are as neer as may be agreeable to the Lawes of this Realme of England.

3. You are also desired to get into your Possession as soon as may be, all such Papers, Writings, Records, Books, Rent Rolls & Evidences as heretofore either before my Cousin Thomas Gorges his Coming to England or since, have been
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in the Hands of any Person whatsoever & the same being in your Custody appoint to be kept in some safe Place by such Person as shall be by you chosen Register for Keeping a Record of all your Actings & Proceedings.

4. You are in Imitation of his gracious Majesty amongst your selves & the Inhabitants of the f^d. Province to put into perpetual Oblivion as I myself do the Actings of all such as have been heretofore any Waies instrumentall in those Addresses made to the Governors of ye Bay at Boston upon which Addresses & Petition they took upon them the Government of the f^d. Province, which I am more ready to look upon as the Influence of the Disorders of the late Tymes than any Disaffection to me by Reason that before the Tyme of such Petitioning my Predecessors for appearing for his late Majesty in the late unhappy Warres of England were great Sufferers here, & the peaceable enjoyment of those Provinces much disturbed by some Persons here, who being potent with the prevailing Powers although Strangers to the affairs of New England never having disbursed One Penny there were so dishonorable as to endeavour the Taking away of that from me in ye Planting whereof my Predecessors had spent very considerable Sums of Money. And I shall in this Particular only make this Addition that by Obliveating I do not only mean the Passing by of what is past but that any such Persons who were instrumental as above mentioned be as capable of bearing office or any other Kindness as any other Inhabitant of the f^d. Province.

5. You are with my great Seal w^{ch}. I have herewith sent you to be used as my Seal for judicial Affairs to sign & grant Comissions or Patents to such & so many Persons as
you

you shall find necessary for Mainteyning the Courts of Jurisdiction which have heretofore been usually kept within the f^d. Province for Administration of Justice between as well me & any of the Inhabitants as between Party & Party according to Law & a good Conscience in w^{ch}. Administration of Justice you are to endeavour & take Order according to the best of your Skill that there be as much as may be an observation had of the Laws & Usages in his Majesty's Dominion of England & Power given to the f^d. Judges to Administer Oaths when necessary in the Execution of their office.

6. You are also desired to as soon as conveniently may be to proceed to ye Choice of a Colonel to command the Trayn^d. Bands of the f^d. Province & such Person as shall be so by you chosen to comissionate by Comission under the f^d. great Seal for one whole year next ensurring & empower & comissionate him to act according to such Instructions as he shall from Tyme to Tyme receive from me & for want of such Instructions from me then to act according to such Instructions as he from Tyme to Tyme receive from your selves or the Major Part of You or the major Part of the Survivors of you & as to all other military officers as Captains & all under officers you are also to give them Comissions for one year now next ensuing [& if you think it convenient let them be sealed] with the lesser Seal w^{ch} I have herewith sent you & in such Comissions you are to enjoyn them to observe such Orders as they shall from Tyme to Tyme receive from their superior officers.

7. You are also desired to have a special Regard to preserve the Right & Tytle of all Persons to any Lands Tenem^{ts}. or Hereditan^{ts}. lawfully claimed by Grants from S^r. Ferdinando

nando Gorges my Grandfather or John Gorges Esq^r my Father or by any Power lawfully deriving Authority from them but if any Persons do claim any Tytle to Lands by Virtue of any Grants not made either by my Father or Grandfather & not recorded in ye Publick Records of the s^d Province then & in such Case I do expect that ye order hereafter mentioned be observed viz That all such Persons enter their Claims with you publickly upon Record at some Time within Six Months after y^r Receipt hereof of w^{ch} publick Notice may be taken by all Persons of this Perticular, I desire you soon after the Receipt hereof at several Times & Places convenient to sumon all Persons herein concerned to appear before you to make their particular Claims except such as are by you or some of you known to have clear & undoubted Tytles to ye Lands & Tenements by them possessed.

8. You are also desired as soon as may conveniently be after ye Receipt hereof to give Notice to all Persons who are in Possession of Lands & Tenements to w^{ch} they have no Tytle neither from me nor my s^d Ancest^{rs} that they may make their Addresses to you for the making of Contracts for such Lands as they now possess in which you shall observe this Method That is to say Each Person shall give a Perticular in Writing of ye Quantity of Lands by him possessed & of what Nature it is how long he hath been possessed of the same & if upon his or their becoming possessed thereof they become obliged to pay any Rent to any who have had or pretended to have the Governm^t of the s^d Province or any Part thereof during the late Tymes of Disord^r.

Then what such Rent was & what Rent or Acknowledg.
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ment he is now willing to pay & what Covenants to come under to me as Lord Proprietor of the 1st Province which you are with yo^r. Advice thereupon in Nature of a Conditional Contract to transferre unto me for my Consent & Approbation upon Return whereof from hence a Grant is to be made to such Person or Persons so claiming under the great Seal herewith sent you & Copies of the respective Grants entered upon Record in ye Court of Chancery.

9. You are also desired as soon as any Persons now not in Possession of any Lands Tenements or Hereditaments do desire to become Tenants for any of the Lands of ye 1st Province as yet both uninhabited & undisposed of you are to receive their Proposals in writing of such Lands as they are willing to take & upon what Terms with your Advice thereupon by Way of Conditional Contract & to certifie ye same to me for my Allowance or Consent upon ye Return whereof from hence under my Hand & Seal a Grant is to be by you made under my great Seal & recorded in Chancery as is prescribed in the precedent Article.

10. You are desired to make Inhibition & Defence to all Persons who intend to become Tenants for any of ye Lands of ye 1st Province that before they have made such Contracts with you they do forbear to make Purchase of the pretended Tytle of any of the Sagamores or Indians w^{ch} is derogatory to the Grant to me made by his 1st late Majesty but after Contract made wth you then if they be willing it is very acceptable to me that they give somewhat to the adjacent Sagamore or Native for their Consent so as it be no considerable Summ because although this be not the Practice of other Nations yet the English by so doing & other their good Deportment
have

have gained much upon the affection of ye Natives some of them induced not only to imitate us in Civility but also to embrace the Christian Religion.

11. You are also desired by all Means to take Care as much as in you lyes that no Injurie be done to any of the Native Indians of the Country but rather by all Humanity & Justness in Dealing to winn them to a familiar & friendly Neighborhood in Order to prevailing with them to a higher yea the most honorable of all Designs their Embracing the Christian Religion to w^{ch} End I shall make it my earnest Endeavour that of the Revenue here settled for the Propagation of the Gospel in New England a small Proportion may be designed for your Management in that Province.

12. You are desired to take Care as much as in you lyes that there be a Forbearance of Wasting of Timber in the fst Province I am informed y^t some of the Inhabitants of the fst Province do at their Pleasure in severall Places of the Province fell vast Quantities of Timber as if they were the Lord Proprietors of the fst Province or rather as if there were no such Thing as a Proprietor of the fst Province. I confesse it may be very prejudicial to men who are in a way of Trade to be all at once put to a Stop in their Commerce yet I can not so much forget my self as not to desire you to take some better Care herein and as long as it shall be with some Reasonableness they may be tolerated to go on in Felling Tymber yet why particular Persons should receive an Advantage out of that in which they have no Propriety & not make some Acknowledgment to the Proprietor I can not understand but leave it to your Discretions to give some reasonable & moderate Order herein.

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13. You are also desired as soon as conveniently you can after Receipt hereof to inform your selves by all waies & Means how Trading may be erected in the f^d Province & it being here affirmed by those that know the Province & are well wishers to the Advancement of it that it is conveniently situated for Trade & that if some one of the best Ports were pitched upon & made a Magazin or Store House for the Province so as the Goods & Commodities which the Country & Coasts thereof afford might be there laden & transported & by the same way of Merchandize & the Keeping of Store Houses there for Goods to arrive at immediately from England to be there disposed of to ye Inhabitants of the f^d Province & Parts adjacent it would be a great Means to relieve the Inhabitants from ye great Inconveniency they are at by being forced to carry their Goods to the Bay of Boston & there also to buy at Second or Third Hand all such Goods of these Parts as are necessary for them as Cloath Linen Utenfils for Fishing & ye like in Order to which I am promised in ye Spring the assistance of some Persons who will joyn in a Stock & make a Tryall to settle Trade there wherein I shall want your Advice. Its the opinion of some that some Port in the Middle of the Province will be most convenient for the whole Province but it is the opinion of others that Pascattaway River is ye most convenient & that it being a Place unto w^{ch} Trading is already some what fixed it's far more easy to increase & carry on a Trade there than to begin it in another Port it being found by long Experience that it's hard to put a Force upon Trade & it's believed that what's lost by being so far from the Center of the Province will be gained by the Vicinity of that Corner of the County
which

which lieth to ye westward of Piscataway in order to w^{ch}.
Affair I am in Hopes by ye Spring to Interest my self in a
person fit with your Assistance to manage both ye Govern-
ment & Trade of that Province a Man of Experience in
Busines & to be entrusted by those who put in their Shares
into our small Beginnings from hence which Trade shall be
so ordered that any Person in the Province shall if he desire
it be interested though but in a small Proportion our Design
being to make Trade the Common Interest of the whole
Province which is the more easy in Regard that as I am
informed Fish & other Food as also Tymber for Barbadoes,
& those other hot Places with the Trade in Claw Boards
for Spayne are the most considerable Trade that New Eng-
land Affords for Exportation; Concerning this Affair I have
also mentioned somthing in a Letter to which I desire there
may be proper Respect given.

14. You are also desired to inform your selves by the
Natives or any other waies you can whether there be any
mineral Stone such as is like to produce Tynne Copper or
Lead & if there be any other you judge may be of such
a Nature pray by the next convenient Shipping send to me
some of those Stones made up in a Box, I desire also one
word of Information whe[ther there has in the Pro]vince
or Parts adjacent been any Tryall for making of Pott Ashes
& with what succefs.

15. You are also desired & empowered to call to Account
all such Persons & the Heires Exec^{rs} & Admin^{rs} of all such
Persons to whose Hands hath at any Time come any [part]
of the psonal Estate of S^r Ferdinando Gorges my Grand-
father, And for your better Information in this Particular I

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have herewith sent you a Copie of the Particular Account my Cousin Thomas Gorges gave me of Part of the Stock & Commodities he left with severall Persons upon my Grandfathers Account at his coming from thence ye Tenth Day of July 1643.

16. You are also hereby empowered in the Constitution of Officers to administer Oaths where you judge it convenient which Oath I appoint to be in this Forme viz. To execute the office whereunto they are chosen according to the best of their Skill & Ability You are also impowered for the Finding out of the Truth in all Cases w^{ch} shall come before you to administer an oath to any Person or Persons from Time to Tyme as the Case shall require.

17. You are desired at some convenient Tyme after the Receipt hereof to convene together some particular Persons or Deputies from each Part of ye Province something like the General Courts of Boston in New England where I desire that your Commission & Instructions in ye Execution of them may be publickly read to them & their Assistances required in their severall Places & Stations of abode; You are also to propound to them that it is my Desire they would make some Proposals to me as their Desires in what Way they Desire to participate in the Government in Chusing of Justices of the Peace & all other Infer^r Officers as also Officers in the Militia in w^{ch} Proposals as I desire them to remember that I am singly the Lord Proprietor of that Province whereas in other adjacent Governments the Proprietor is in the Commonalty of Inhabitants so I shall consider y^t a well balanced Government wherein the People are secured in ye Enjoyment of their Religious & Civil Liberties will be

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an Inducement to People to become Inhabitants in the 1st Province & I have no Cause to doubt of their candid Dealing herein when I remember with how much Respect & Kindness the Comission by me sent since his Majesty's happy Restoration was embraced by the Universality of the People of that Province.

You may also acquaint them that these Proposals so by them made & by me here considered of & answered will be fit Subject to be passed into Bills in a General Assembly which I intend God willing shall be holden in the 1st Province next Summer after ye arrival of ye Governor.

Given under my Seal this One & Twentieth Day of June in ye Sixteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord Charles the Second by the Grace of God King of England Scotland France & Ireland Defender of the Faith &c Annoq Dom: 1664

FERDINANDO GORGES

The Reliks of a seal appending
on a Label in a Tinn Box.

A true Copy of a Comission from Ferdinando Gorges late Lord Proprietor of the late Province of Main & of the Instructions thereto annexed (except a few Words obliterated).

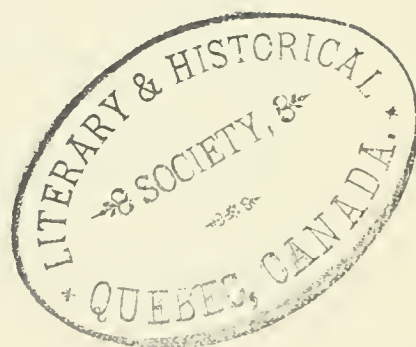
Received July 5. 1733.

Attest JOSEPH MOODY, *Reg^r*





THE PRINCE SOCIETY.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND
SEVENTY-FOUR.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE PRINCE SOCIETY.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court
assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1. John Ward Dean, J. Wingate Thornton, Edmund F. Slafter, and Charles W. Tuttle, their associates and successors, are made a corporation by the name of the PRINCE SOCIETY, for the purpose of preserving and extending the knowledge of American History, by editing and printing such manuscripts, rare tracts, and volumes as are mostly confined in their use to historical students and public libraries.

SECTION 2. Said corporation may hold real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding thirty thousand dollars.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved March 18, 1874.

NOTE. — The Prince Society was organized on the 25th of May, 1858. What was undertaken as an experiment has proved successful. This ACT OF INCORPORATION has been obtained to enable the Society better to fulfil its object, in its expanding growth.



THE PRINCE SOCIETY.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. — This Society shall be called THE PRINCE SOCIETY; and it shall have for its object the publication of rare works, in print or manuscript, relating to America.

ARTICLE II. — The officers of the Society shall be a President, four Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer; who together shall form the Council of the Society.

ARTICLE III. — Members may be added to the Society on the recommendation of any member and a confirmatory vote of a majority of the Council.

Libraries and other Institutions may hold membership, and be represented by an authorized agent.

All members shall be entitled to and shall accept the volumes printed by the Society, as they are issued from time to time, at the prices fixed by the Council; and membership shall be forfeited by a refusal or neglect so to accept the said volumes.

Any person may terminate his membership by resignation addressed in writing to the President; provided, however, that he shall have previously paid for all volumes issued by the Society after the date of his election as a member.

ARTICLE IV. — The management of the Society's affairs shall be vested in the Council, which shall keep a faithful record of its proceedings,

proceedings, and report the same to the Society annually, at its General Meeting in May.

ARTICLE V. — On the anniversary of the birth of the Rev. Thomas Prince, namely, on the twenty-fifth day of May, in every year (but if this day shall fall on Sunday or a legal holiday, on the following day), a General Meeting shall be held at Boston, in Massachusetts, for the purpose of electing officers, hearing the report of the Council, auditing the Treasurer's account, and transacting other business.

ARTICLE VI. — The officers shall be chosen by the Society annually, at the General Meeting; but vacancies occurring between the General Meetings may be filled by the Council.

ARTICLE VII. — By-Laws for the more particular government of the Society may be made or amended at any General Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. — Amendments to the Constitution may be made at the General Meeting in May, by a three-fourths vote, provided that a copy of the same be transmitted to every member of the Society, at least two weeks previous to the time of voting thereon.

COUNCIL.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. THE Society shall be administered on the mutual principle, and solely in the interest of American history.
2. A volume shall be issued as often as practicable, but not more frequently than once a year.
3. An editor of each work to be issued shall be appointed, who shall be a member of the Society, whose duty it shall be to prepare,

pare, arrange, and conduct the same through the press; and, as he will necessarily be placed under obligations to scholars and others for assistance, and particularly for the loan of rare books, he shall be entitled to receive ten copies, to enable him to acknowledge and return any courtesies which he may have received.

4. All editorial work and official service shall be performed gratuitously.

5. All contracts connected with the publication of any work shall be laid before the Council in distinct specifications in writing, and be adopted by a vote of the Council, and entered in a book kept for that purpose; and, when the publication of a volume is completed, its whole expense shall be entered, with the items of its cost in full, in the same book. No member of the Council shall be a contractor for doing any part of the mechanical work of the publications.

6. The price of each volume shall be a hundredth part of the cost of the edition, or as near to that as conveniently may be; and there shall be no other assessments levied upon the members of the Society.

7. A sum, not exceeding one thousand dollars, may be set apart by the Council from the net receipts for publications, as a working capital; and when the said net receipts shall exceed that sum, the excess shall be divided, from time to time, among the members of the Society, by remitting either a part or the whole cost of a volume, as may be deemed expedient.

8. All moneys belonging to the Society shall be deposited in the New England Trust Company in Boston, unless some other banking institution shall be designated by a vote of the Council; and said moneys shall be entered in the name of the Society, subject to the order of the Treasurer.

9. It shall be the duty of the President to call the Council together, whenever it may be necessary for the transaction of business, and to preside at its meetings.

10.

10. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Presidents to authorize all bills before their payment, to make an inventory of the property of the Society during the month preceding the annual meeting and to report the same to the Council, and to audit the accounts of the Treasurer.

11. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to issue all general notices to the members, and to conduct the general correspondence of the Society.

12. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep a complete record of the proceedings both of the Society and of the Council, in a book provided for that purpose.

13. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to forward to the members bills for the volumes, as they are issued; to superintend the sending of the books; to pay all bills authorized and indorsed by at least two Vice-Presidents of the Society; and to keep an accurate account of all moneys received and disbursed.

14. No books shall be forwarded by the Treasurer to any member until the amount of the price fixed for the same shall have been received; and any member neglecting to forward the said amount for one month after his notification, shall forfeit his membership.





OFFICERS
OF
THE PRINCE SOCIETY
FROM ITS ORGANIZATION.

Presidents.

*SAMUEL GARDNER DRAKE, A.M., Boston 1858 to 1870.
JOHN WARD DEAN, A.M., Boston 1870 to 1880.
The Rev. EDMUND F. SLAFTER, D.D., Boston 1880.

Vice-Presidents.

*THOMAS WATERMAN, Boston 1858 to 1866.
*FREDERIC KIDDER, Boston 1858 to 1863.
JEREMIAH COLBURN, A.M., Boston 1858 to 1863.
JOHN WARD DEAN, A.M., Boston 1863 to 1870.
*JOHN WINGATE THORNTON, A.M., Boston 1863 to 1878.
The Rev. EDMUND F. SLAFTER, D.D., Boston 1866 to 1880.
WILLIAM BLAKE TRASK, A.M., Dorchester 1870.
CHARLES HENRY BELL, LL.D., Exeter, N. H. 1874.
JOHN MARSHALL BROWN, A.M., Portland, Me. 1878 to 1885.
JOHN WARD DEAN, A.M., Boston 1880.
JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER, A.M., Portland, Me. 1885.

*Officers of the Society.**Corresponding Secretaries.*

JOHN WARD DEAN, A.M., Boston	1858 to 1863.
WILLIAM HENRY WHITMORE, A.M., Boston	1863 to 1872.
The Hon. CHARLES H. BELL, LL.D., Exeter, N. H.	1872 to 1874.
*CHARLES WESLEY TUTTLE, Ph. D., Boston	1874 to 1881.
*The Rev. HENRY WILDER FOOTE, A.M., Boston	1882 to 1889.
ROBERT NOXON TOPPAN, A.M., Cambridge	1890.

Recording Secretaries.

WILLIAM HENRY WHITMORE, A.M., Boston	1858 to 1863.
WILLIAM SUMNER APPLETON, A.M., Boston	1863 to 1865.
The Rev. EDMUND F. SLAFTER, D.D., Boston	1865 to 1866.
WILLIAM S. APPLETON, A.M., Boston	1866 to 1870.
WILLIAM THEOPHILUS ROGERS MARVIN, A.M., Boston	1870 to 1873.
WILLIAM H. WHITMORE, A.M., Boston	1873 to 1875.
DAVID GREENE HASKINS, Jr., A.M., Cambridge	1875.

Treasurers.

*JOHN WELLS PARKER, Roxbury	1858 to 1863.
JEREMIAH COLBURN, A.M., Boston	1863 to 1873.
*CHARLES WESLEY TUTTLE, Ph.D., Boston	1873 to 1874.
ELBRIDGE HENRY GOSS, Melrose	1874.



OFFICERS
OF
THE PRINCE SOCIETY.

1890.

President.

THE REV. EDMUND F. SLAFTER, D.D. . . BOSTON, MASS.

Vice-Presidents.

JOHN WARD DEAN, A.M. BOSTON, MASS.
WILLIAM B. TRASK, A.M. BOSTON, MASS.
THE HON. CHARLES H. BELL, LL.D. . . . EXETER, N. H.
JAMES P. BAXTER, A.M. PORTLAND, ME.

Corresponding Secretary.

ROBERT N. TOPPAN, A.M. CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Recording Secretary.

DAVID GREENE HASKINS, JR., A.M. . . . CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Treasurer.

ELBRIDGE H. GOSS, Esq. BOSTON, MASS.



THE PRINCE SOCIETY.

1890.

Charles Francis Adams, A.B.	Quincy, Mass.
William Sumner Appleton, A.M., LL.B.	Boston, Mass.
Thomas Willing Balch, A.B.	Philadelphia, Pa.
The Hon. George Lewis Balcom	Claremont, N. H.
The Hon. Charles Candee Baldwin, A.M., LL.B.	Cleveland, Ohio.
Charles Edward Banks, M.D.	Vineyard Haven, Mass.
James Phinney Baxter, A.M.	Portland, Me.
The Hon. Charles Henry Bell, LL.D.	Exeter, N. H.
The Hon. John James Bell, A.M., LL.B.	Exeter, N. H.
The Rev. Phillips Brooks, S. T. D.	Boston, Mass.
Alexander Brown	Norwood, Va.
John Marshall Brown, A.M.	Portland, Me.
John Nicholas Brown	Providence, R. I.
Joseph Outerbridge Brown	New York, N. Y.
Philip Henry Brown, A.M.	Portland, Me.
Thomas Nadauld Brushfield, M.D.	Budleigh, Salterton, Devon. Eng.
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Thomas Oliver Hazard Perry Burnham	Boston, Mass.
The Hon. Mellen Chamberlain, LL.D.	Chelsea, Mass.
The Hon. William Eaton Chandler, A.M., LL.B.	Concord, N. H.
George Bigelow Chase, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
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Clarence Howard Clark	Philadelphia, Pa.
The Hon. Samuel Crocker Cobb	Boston, Mass.
Jeremiah Colburn, A.M.	Boston, Mass.

Deloraine Pendre Corey	Boston, Mass.
Eraftus Corning	Albany, N. Y.
Ellery Bicknell Crane	Worcester, Mass.
John McNab Currier, M.D.	Newport, Vt.
Abram Edmands Cutter	Charlestown, Mass.
John Ward Dean, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
Edward Denham	New Bedford, Mass.
Prof. Franklin Bowditch Dexter, A.M.	New Haven, Conn.
The Rev. Henry Martyn Dexter, D.D.	New Bedford, Mass.
Samuel Adams Drake	Kennebunkport, Maine.
Henry Thayer Drowne	New York, N. Y.
Henry Herbert Edes	Charlestown, Mass.
William Henry Egle, A.M., M.D.	Harrisburg, Pa.
Janus Granville Elder	Lewiston, Me.
Samuel Eliot, LL.D.	Boston, Mass.
Joseph Story Fay	Woods Holl, Mass.
John Samuel Hill Fogg, A.M., M.D.	Boston, Mass.
Augustus Allen Galloupe	Beverly, Mass.
Charles William Galloupe	Boston, Mass.
Isaac DeBlois Garfield	Syracuse, N. Y.
Julius Gay, A.M.	Farmington, Conn.
Abner Cheney Goodell, Jr., A.M.	Salem, Mass.
Elbridge Henry Gofs	Melrose, Mass.
The Hon. Justice Horace Gray, LL.D.	Boston, Mass.
William Whitwell Greenough, A.B.	Boston, Mass.
Isaac John Greenwood, A.M.	New York, N. Y.
Charles Henry Guild	Newton Highlands, Mass.
David Greene Haskins, Jr., A.M., LL.B.	Cambridge, Mass.
The Hon. Rutherford Birchard Hayes, LL.D.	Fremont, Ohio.
Thomas Wentworth Higginson, A.M.	Cambridge, Mass.
Winfield Scott Hill, M.D.	Augusta, Me.
Amor Leander Hollingsworth, A.M.	Milton, Mass.
Prof. Eben Norton Horsford, A.M.	Cambridge, Mass.
James Frothingham Hunnewell, A.M.	Charlestown, Mass.
David Hunt, A.M., M.D.	Boston, Mass.
Theodore Irwin	Ofwego, N. Y.
The Rev. Henry Fitch Jenks, A.M.	Canton, Mass.

The Hon. Clark Jillson	Worcester, Mass.
John Johnston, A.M.	Milwaukee, Wis.
Frank Keene	Lynn, Mass.
David Sherwood Kellogg, A.M., M.D.	Plattsburg, N. Y.
Nathaniel Thayer Kidder, B.A.S.	Milton, Mass.
Alexander Hamilton Ladd	Portsmouth, N. H.
George Lamb	Boston, Mass.
Edward Floyd de Lancey, M.A.	New York, N. Y.
Isaac Remsen Lane	New York, N. Y.
Henry Lee, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
The Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge, Ph.D.	Boston, Mass.
Alfred Small Manson	Boston, Mass.
Edmund Marston	Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Archer Martin	Winnipeg, Manitoba.
William Theophilus Rogers Marvin, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
Edward Gay Mason, M.A.	Chicago, Ill.
William Frederic Matchett	Boston, Mass.
Frederick Warren Goddard May	Boston, Mass.
Willard Atherton Nichols, B. S.	Redlands, Cal.
The Rev. James De Normandie, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
Prof. Charles Eliot Norton, LL.D.	Cambridge, Mass.
John Henry Osborne	Auburn, N. Y.
George Taylor Paine	Providence, R. I.
Nathaniel Paine	Worcester, Mass.
John Carver Palfrey, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
Daniel Parish, Jr.	New York, N. Y.
Francis Parkman, LL.D.	Boston, Mass.
James William Paul, Jr.	Philadelphia, Pa.
Augustus Thorndike Perkins, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
The Rt. Rev. William Stevens Perry, S.T.D., LL.D.	Davenport, Iowa.
William Frederic Poole, LL.D.	Chicago, Ill.
John Frank Pratt, M.D.	Chelsea, Mass.
Samuel Smith Purple, M.D.	New York, N. Y.
The Hon. Nathaniel Foster Safford, A.M.	Milton, Mass.
Joshua Montgomery Sears, A.B.	Boston, Mass.
John Gilmary Shea, LL.D.	Elizabeth, N. J.
The Rev. Carlos Slafter, A.M.	Dedham, Mass.

The Rev. Edmund Farwell Slafter, D.D. . . .	Boston, Mass.
Charles Card Smith	Boston, Mass.
Oliver Bliss Stebbins	Boston, Mass.
George Stewart, Jr., D.C.L.	Quebec, Canada.
Miss Mary Pickering Thompson	Durham, N. H.
Walter Eliot Thwing	Boston, Mass.
Robert Noxon Toppan, A.M., LL.B.	Cambridge, Mass.
William Blake Trask, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
Joseph Burbeen Walker, A.M.	Concord, N. H.
James Otis Watson, A.M.	Orange, N. J.
Miss Rachel Wetherill	Philadelphia, Pa.
Henry Wheatland, A.M., M.D.	Salem, Mass.
The Rev. Horace Leslie Wheeler, A.M.	Newton Centre, Mass.
John Gardner White, A.M.	Cambridge, Mass.
William Henry Whitmore, A.M.	Boston, Mass.
The Hon. Robert Charles Winthrop, LL.D. . . .	Boston, Mass.
The Hon. Charles Levi Woodbury	Boston, Mass.
James Otis Woodward, A.M.	Albany, N. Y.

LIBRARIES.

American Antiquarian Society	Worcester, Mass.
Amherst College Library	Amherst, Mass.
Astor Library	New York, N. Y.
Bibliothèque Nationale	Paris, France.
Bodleian Library	Oxford, Eng.
Boston Athenæum	Boston, Mass.
Boston Library Society	Boston, Mass.
British Museum	London, Eng.
Buffalo Library	Buffalo, N. Y.
Chicago Historical Society	Chicago, Ill.
Chicago Public Library	Chicago, Ill.
Concord Public Library	Concord, Mass.
Dartmouth College Library	Hanover, N. H.
Eben Dale Sutton Reference Library	Peabody, Mass.
Free Public Library	Worcester, Mass.
Harvard College Library	Cambridge, Mass.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, Pa.
Lancaster Public Library	Lancaster, Mass.
Library Company of Philadelphia	Philadelphia, Pa.
Library of Cornell University	Ithaca, N. Y.
Library of Parliament	Ottawa, Canada.
Library of the State Department	Washington, D. C.
Literary and Historical Society of Quebec	Quebec, Canada.
Long Island Historical Society	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Lowell City Library	Lowell, Mass.
Maine Historical Society	Portland, Me.
Maryland Historical Society	Baltimore, Md.
Massachusetts Historical Society	Boston, Mass.
Mercantile Library	New York, N. Y.
Minnesota Historical Society	St. Paul, Minn.
Missouri Historical Society	St. Louis, Mo.
Newberry Library	Chicago, Ill.
Newburyport Public Library, Peabody Fund	Newburyport, Mass.
New England Historic-Genealogical Society	Boston, Mass.
Newton Free Library	Newton, Mass.
New York Historical Society	New York, N. Y.
New York Society Library	New York, N. Y.
Peabody Institute of the City of Baltimore	Baltimore, Md.
Portsmouth Athenæum	Portsmouth, N. H.
Providence Public Library	Providence, R. I.
Public Library of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Public Library of the City of Boston	Boston, Mass.
Public Library of Toronto	Toronto, Canada.
Redwood Library	Newport, R. I.
San Francisco Free Public Library	San Francisco, Cal.
State Historical Society of Wisconsin	Madison, Wis.
State Library of Massachusetts	Boston, Mass.
State Library of New York	Albany, N. Y.
State Library of Rhode Island	Providence, R. I.
State Library of Vermont	Montpelier, Vt.
Williams College Library	Williamstown, Mass.
Woburn Public Library	Woburn, Mass.
Yale College Library	New Haven, Conn.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIETY.

NEW ENGLAND'S PROSPECT.

A true, lively and experimentall description of that part of *America*, commonly called Nevv England: discovering the State of that Countrie, both as it stands to our new-come *English* Planters; and to the old Natiue Inhabitants. By WILLIAM WOOD. London, 1634. Preface by Charles Deane, LL.D. pp. 131. Boston, 1865.

THE HUTCHINSON PAPERS.

A Collection of Original Papers relative to the History of the Colony of Massachusetts-Bay. Reprinted from the edition of 1769. Edited by William H. Whitmore, A.M., and William S. Appleton, A.M. 2 vols. Vol. I. pp. 324. Vol. II. pp. 354. Albany, 1865.

JOHN DUNTON'S LETTERS FROM NEW ENGLAND.

Letters written from New England A.D. 1686. By John Dunton, in which are described his voyages by Sea, his travels on land, and the characters of his friends and acquaintances. Now first published from the Original Manuscript in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Edited by William H. Whitmore, A.M. pp. 340. Boston, 1867.

THE ANDROS TRACTS.

Being a Collection of Pamphlets and Official Papers issued during the period between the overthrow of the Andros Government and the establishment of the second Charter of Massachusetts. Reprinted from the original editions and manuscripts. With a Memoir of Sir Edmund Andros, by the editor, William H. Whitmore, A.M. 3 vols. Vol. I. pp. 215; 1868. Vol. II. pp. 346; 1869. Vol. III. pp. 257; 1874. Boston.

SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER AND AMERICAN COLONIZATION.

Including three Royal Charters, issued in 1621, 1625, 1628; a Tract entitled an Encouragement to Colonies, by Sir William Alexander, 1624; a Patent, from the Great Council for New England, of Long Island, and a part of the present State of Maine; a Roll of the Knights Baronets of New Scotland; with a Memoir of Sir William Alexander, by the editor, the Rev. Edmund F. Slafter, A.M. pp. 283. Boston, 1873.

JOHN WHEELWRIGHT.

Including his Fast-day Sermon, 1637; his *Mercurius Americanus*, 1645, and other writings; with a paper on the genuineness of the Indian deed of 1629, and a Memoir by the editor, Charles H. Bell, A.M. pp. 253. Boston, 1876.

VOYAGES OF THE NORTHMEN TO AMERICA.

Including extracts from Icelandic Sagas relating to Western voyages by Northmen in the tenth and eleventh centuries, in an English translation by North Ludlow Beamish; with a Synopsis of the historical evidence and the opinion of Professor Rasmussen as to the places visited by the Scandinavians on the coast of America. Edited, with an Introduction, by the Rev. Edmund F. Slafter, A.M. pp. 162. Boston, 1877.

332 *Publications of the Society.*

THE VOYAGES OF SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN.

Including the Voyage of 1603, and all contained in the edition of 1613, and in that of 1619; translated from the French by Charles P. Otis, Ph.D. Edited, with a Memoir and historical illustrations, by the Rev. Edmund F. Slafter, A.M. 3 vols. Vol. I. pp. 340; 1880. Vol. II. pp. 273; 1878. Vol. III. pp. 240; 1882. Boston.

NEW ENGLISH CANAAN, OR NEW CANAAN.

Containing an abstract of New England, composed in three books. I. The first setting forth the Originall of the Natives, their Manners and Customes, together with their tractable Nature and Love towards the English. II. The Natural Indowments of the Countre, and what Staple Commodities it yieldeth. III. What People are planted there, their Prosperity, what remarkable Accidents have happened since the first planting of it, together with their Tenents and practice of their Church. Written by Thomas Morton of Cliffords Inne, Gent, upon ten Years Knowledge and Experiment of the Country, 1632. Edited, with an Introduction and historical illustrations, by Charles Francis Adams, Jr., A.B. pp. 381. Boston, 1883.

SIR WALTER RALEGH AND HIS COLONY IN AMERICA.

Containing the Royal Charter of Queen Elizabeth to Sir Walter Raleigh for discovering and planting of new lands and countries, March 25, 1584, with letters, discourses, and narratives of the Voyages made to Virginia at his charges, with original descriptions of the country, commodities, and inhabitants. Edited, with a Memoir and historical illustrations, by the Rev. Increase N. Tarbox, D.D. pp. 329. Boston, 1884.

VOYAGES OF PETER ESPRIT RADISSON.

Being an account of his travels and experiences among the North American Indians from 1652 to 1684, transcribed from Original Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library and the British Museum. Edited, with historical illustrations and an Introduction, by Gideon D. Scull. pp. 385. Boston, 1885.

CAPTAIN JOHN MASON, THE FOUNDER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Including his Tract on Newfoundland, 1620, the American Charters in which he was a Grantee, with Letters and other Historical Documents; and a Memoir by the late Charles W. Tuttle, Ph.D. Edited, with historical illustrations, by John Ward Dean, A.M. pp. 492. Boston, 1887.

SIR FERDINANDO GORGES AND HIS PROVINCE OF MAINE.

Including his Tract entitled A Brief Narration, 1658, American Charters granted to him, and other papers; with historical illustrations and a Memoir by James P. Baxter, A.M. 3 vols. Vol. I. pp. 268; 1890. Vol. II. pp. 270; 1890. Vol. III. pp. 353; 1890. Boston.

VOLUMES IN PREPARATION.

1. SIR HUMPHREY GILBERT, including his Discourse to prove a Passage by the Northwest to Cathaia and the East Indies; his Letters Patent to discover and possess lands in North America, granted by Queen Elizabeth, June 11, 1578. With historical illustrations and a Memoir by David G. Haskins, Jr., A.M.

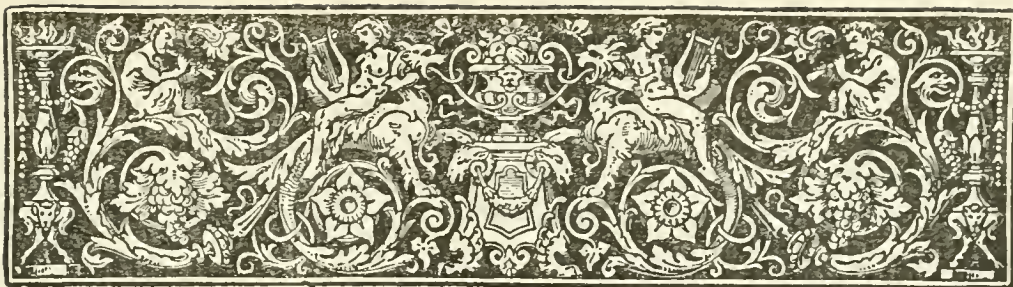
2. SAMUEL MAVERICK, including his Description of New England, Letters and other papers, with historical illustrations and a Memoir by Frank W. Hackett, A.M.

3. EDWARD RANDOLPH, a monograph including his letters and other papers, with historical illustrations and a Memoir by Robert N. Toppan, A.M.

THE PURPOSE AND WORK
OF
THE PRINCE SOCIETY.

BY

THE REV. EDMUND F. SLAFTER, D.D.,
PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.



The following letter of the Rev. Dr. Slafter, President of the Prince Society, addressed to a correspondent in answer to an inquiry as to its purpose and work, is printed by order of the Council for the information of any who may wish to make similar inquiries.

BOSTON, 18 SOMERSET STREET,

MY DEAR SIR, — I am happy to give you the information which you request in your favor of the 5th instant.

THE PRINCE SOCIETY was formed in Boston in 1858, and after testing its practical working by the issue of seven volumes, it asked and obtained an act of incorporation, under the laws of Massachusetts, on the 18th of March, 1874. Its name was assumed in honor of the Rev. THOMAS PRINCE, who flourished one hundred and fifty years ago, as a distinguished antiquary and historian in New England. The object of the Society, as stated in its charter, is, "for the purpose of preserving and extending the knowledge of American history, by editing and printing such manuscripts, rare tracts and volumes as are mostly confined in their use to historical students and public libraries."

Every careful historical student is fully aware that there exists in this country and in England a mass of matter in the form of legal documents, charters, tracts, and letters, which are inaccessible, or of very great rarity, but nevertheless indispensable to a correct knowledge

knowledge of our early history. While these papers are scattered, and some of them perhaps unknown, they are not only liable, but pretty sure to be overlooked, and in consequence the historian is equally sure to fall into error.

It is the object of this Society to collect together these papers, fragments of a complete whole, and print them in volumes, carefully and fully annotated, so that the historical student may have the whole subject before him at once. The Andros tracts, collected and printed by the Prince Society, furnish a good illustration. The difficulties which Sir EDMUND ANDROS encountered here in Boston, resulted in a small revolution. There were of course two sides to the question. Charges and counter-charges, petitions and declarations, narratives and discourses, were issued in great numbers on both sides. After the lapse of two hundred years, the historian cannot form a correct judgment on the merits of the controversy without examining the whole of these documents, which, thanks to the Prince Society, he can now do in the three handsome volumes in which these papers have been reproduced. Before this collection was made, it is not probable that any of our historians had ever seen one tenth of them; and their opinions, whether correct or otherwise, must have been formed on a partial knowledge of the subject.

It is obvious that volumes like these are not suited to the popular taste, and no publisher could afford to put them upon the market. The Society was formed to do what could not be done except by some such associated effort. The members, now numbering about one hundred and seventy-five, mutually bear the expense, and each is entitled to a single copy. The editorial work is gratuitous. In type and paper, and all that relates to mechanical execution, the volumes are intended to be after the highest style of American art.

We have said that the volumes are *published*, but it would be more accurate to say that they are printed for the members of the Society. They are not sold outside of that limit. But there is no disposition

disposition to print only a small number for the purpose of rendering them rare and expensive. Any person desirous of having them will find no obstacle in the way of becoming a member, and thus availing himself of the opportunity of receiving them at their actual cost.

While the Association is conducted on the mutual principle, the paramount motive of the members is not merely to secure a rare volume for themselves, but the publication of works which shall be, in the best sense, contributions to our knowledge of American history. Twenty volumes have already been issued, all of which are of this character. One entitled "Wood's New England Prospect," gives us a picture of life in Boston in 1634. Another, "John Dunton's Letters," furnishes an equally graphic tableau of our Commonwealth in 1686. Then follows the "Hutchinson Papers," a collection of letters and historical documents relating to events stretching through the first sixty years of the history of Massachusetts Bay. The "Andros Tracts" I have already described. I need only add that the work contains a fine steel engraving of Sir Edmund Andros, executed for the Society, the first and only engraving ever issued of this distinguished historical character. It contains likewise a steel engraving of Increase Mather, and two heliotype copies of old engravings of Mather, at the age of eighty and eighty-five respectively.

Another volume entitled "Sir William Alexander and American Colonization," gives a complete history of the efforts of this Scotch nobleman in planting colonies in this country, especially in Nova Scotia and on Long Island, from 1621 to 1641. It has an engraved portrait of Sir William Alexander, from an old plate, in the possession of Henry G. Bohn, of London.

"John Wheelwright" is another monograph, containing the famous discourse delivered in Boston, January 16, 1636, for which he was banished from Massachusetts. It is printed from the only complete and contemporaneous manuscript copy known. The
volume

volume contains also his *Mercurius Americanus*, a defence of himself against his persecutors, printed in England in 1645. In the memoir we have a careful analysis of the whole subject of liberty of conscience as then regarded by the authorities in Massachusetts Bay, and a full discussion of the genuineness of the famous Wheelwright deed of 1629.

"The Voyages of the Northmen to America" contains a translation of the Icelandic Sagas, from which we derive all our authentic information in regard to the visits of the Scandinavians to this country in the last part of the tenth and first part of the eleventh centuries. It contains an explanatory and historical introduction and valuable notes.

The "Voyages of Samuel de Champlain" are contained in three volumes. They were never before translated into English. A Memoir fills most of one volume, the first full and complete personal history of this distinguished explorer ever published. The voyages include not only the narratives of all the explorations made by Champlain into the then unbroken forests of America, on the coast of New England, on the shores of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in the Gulf and on the River of St. Lawrence, of the founding of Quebec, the discovery of Lake Champlain, the exploration of the Ottawa, of Lake Huron, and of Lake Ontario, of his journey into the heart of the present state of New York, but likewise the whole of his minute, ample, and invaluable descriptions of the character and habits, mental, moral, and physical, of the various savage tribes with which he came in contact. They furnish to the student of history and to the student of ethnology most valuable information, unsurpassed in richness and extent, and which cannot be obtained from any other source. The volumes are heavily annotated, containing in all over a thousand notes. They contain two portraits of Champlain, and heliotype copies of all the illustrations in his original work, published in French in 1613, over thirty in number.

The

The "New English Canaan of Thomas Morton" is the first reprint with annotations of this valuable but singular book. It was first printed in 1637, and contains many strictures upon the planters of Massachusetts Bay. The introduction and the notes are the result of careful study, are rich and teeming with information, and illustrate some obscure passages in that early period of our history.

"Sir Walter Raleigh and his Colony in America" elucidates the attempt in 1584 to plant a colony in North Carolina. It contains the Reports of the several expeditions sent out, and is carefully annotated after the general plan and style of the volumes already mentioned.

The "Voyages of Peter Esprit Radisson" are collected and here printed for the first time. Though containing valuable information about the Indians of North America in the seventeenth century, the manuscripts seem for over two hundred years to have escaped the notice of scholars till they were discovered in the Bodleian Library and British Museum, and copied for this volume.

The monograph on "Captain John Mason, the Founder of New Hampshire," contains a carefully prepared memoir of that enterprising and public-spirited man, and an account of his settlements in New England, with copies of his charters, and his voluminous correspondence, much of which has never before been printed.

The three volumes on "Sir Ferdinando Gorges and his Province of Maine" are of great value in illustrating the early history of this country, and particularly of the State of Maine. The editor personally visited the various places in England in which members of the Gorges family were settled, and gathered valuable matter to be used in this work, much of which is new to historical students. The letters are of very great value. A very small portion of them have either been printed or referred to by historical writers.

The publications of the Society, as I have said, now number twenty volumes. Several others are in preparation by competent editors.

It

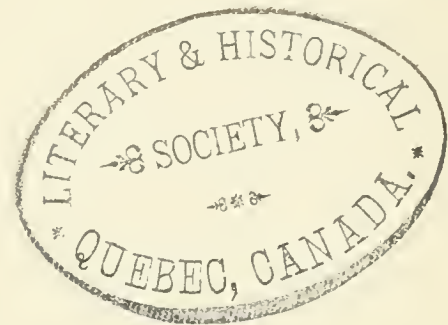
It is the purpose of the Council, as in the past so in the future, to issue no work which may not be referred to as an historical authority on the subject of which it treats.

When a person becomes a member of the Society he is required to take at the price fixed all the books issued *after* he becomes a member, and he may at his option take any volumes previously issued which the Society may have on hand. The average expense of the volumes is about five dollars each. They are bound only in paper, so that each member may consult his own taste as to the binding of his own volumes. Membership may be terminated at any time on the conditions stated in Article III. of the Constitution. Membership involves no expense except that in payment of the volumes as they are issued from time to time. It is the intention of the Council to issue at least one volume annually.

Trusting that I have answered your inquiries fully, I am, my dear Sir,

Yours, very truly,

EDMUND F. SLAFTER.



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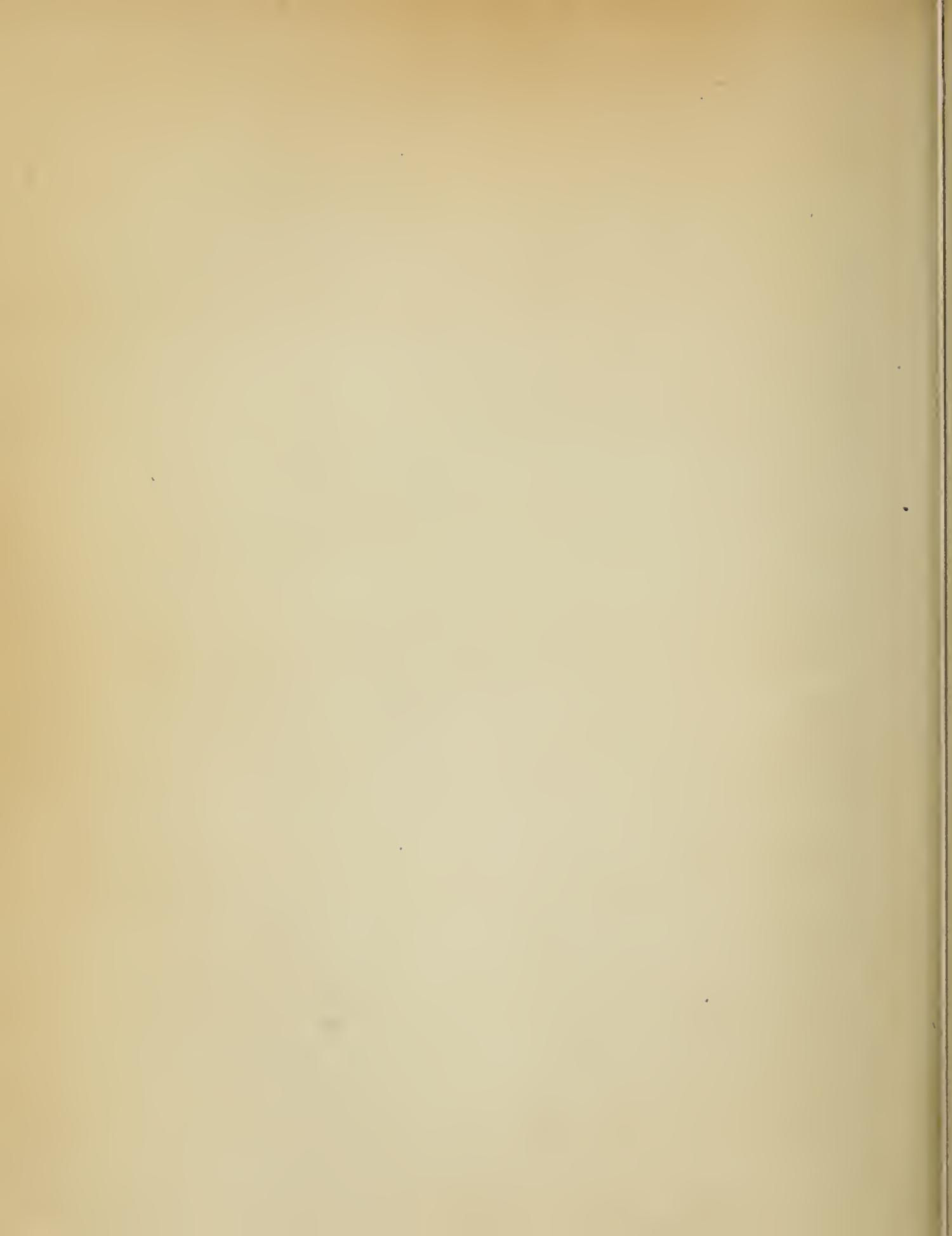
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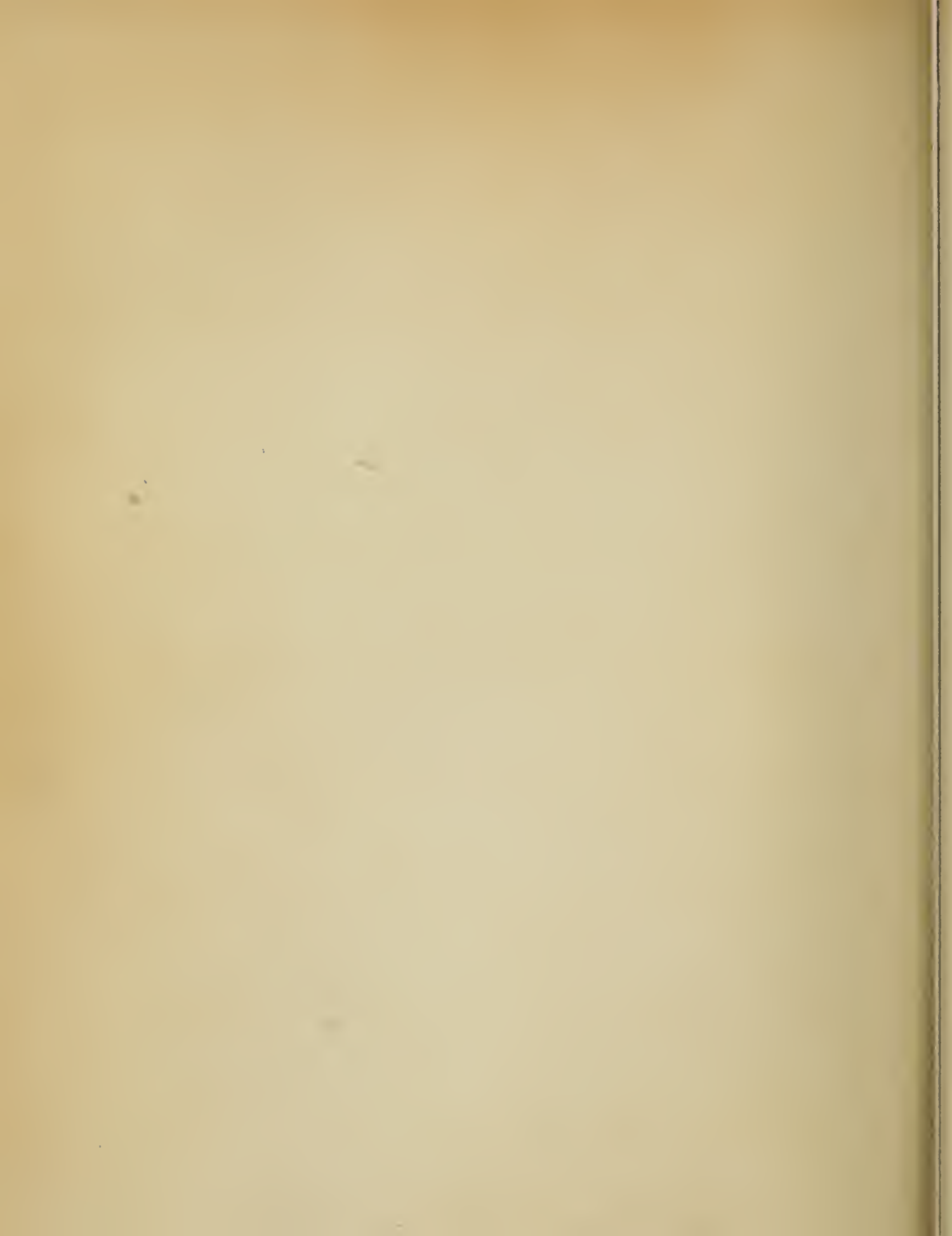
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The Indices in these volumes were prepared by Mr. Edward Denham, New Bedford, Massachusetts







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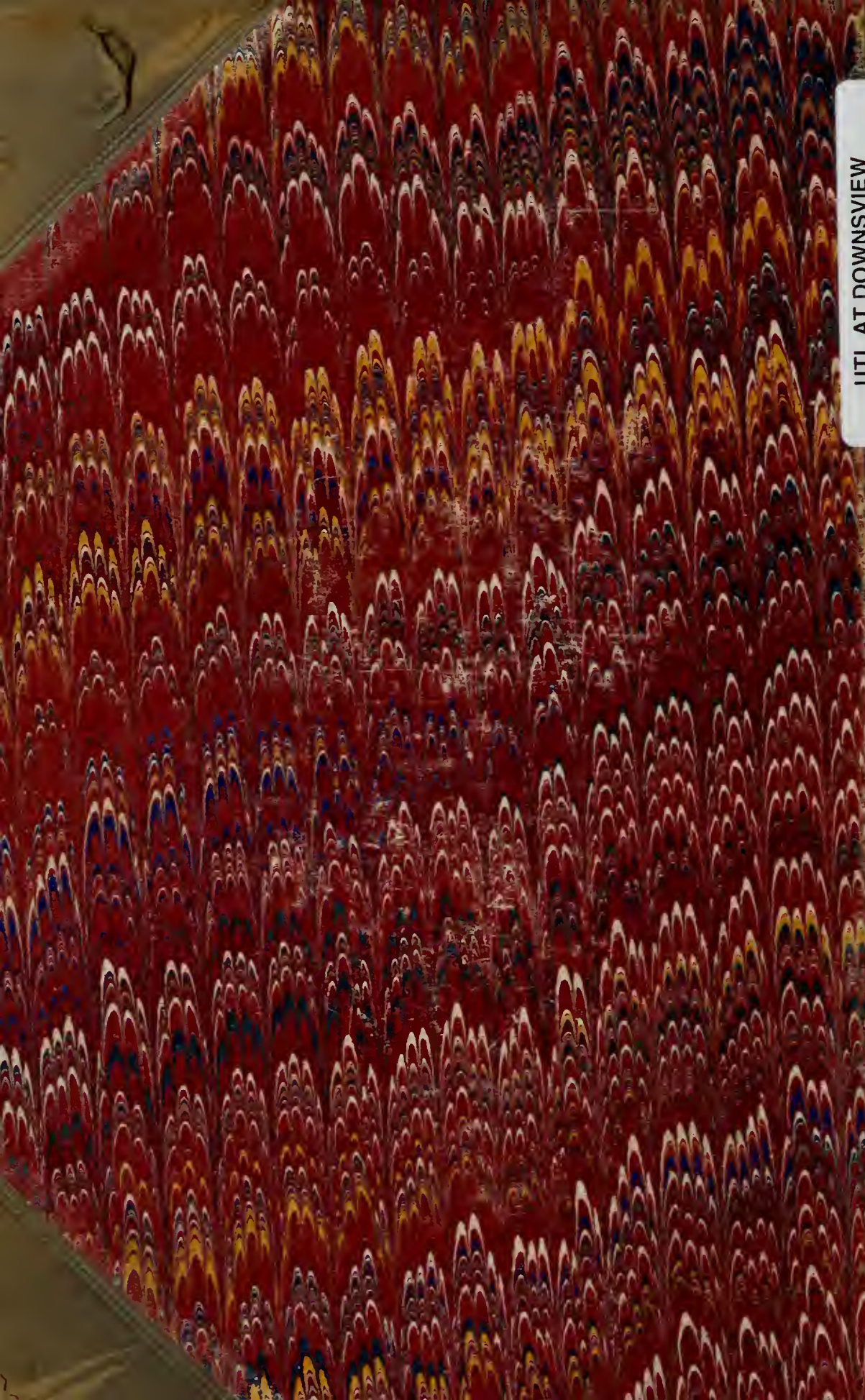
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